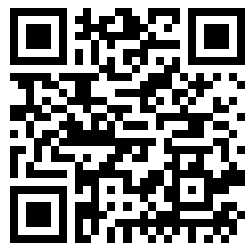

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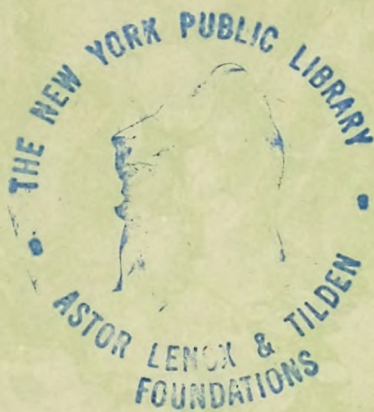


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RECORDS
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1685.

RECORDS
OF THE
1st SOMERSET MILITIA
(3rd BN. SOMERSET L.I.).

BY
W. J. W. KERR
(Late Capt. & Hon. Major, 3rd Bn. Somerset L.I.).

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PREFACE

WAR OFFICE,

WHITEHALL,

LONDON, S.W.1.

February 18th, 1930.

I HAVE been asked by Major Kerr to write a preface for his "History of the 1st Somerset Militia." Any publication which contributes to the knowledge of forces raised in the County of Somerset is, of course, dear to the heart of a member of the County Regiment, and this book of Major Kerr's seems to me to fill a vacant place in the historical annals of the County's military service.

Commencing with a short description of the origin of the Militia, the Armada Muster, etc., the author deals, in the second chapter, with the definite embodiment of the 1st Somerset Militia in 1759, during the Seven Years War. He then traces its services during the American War, Napoleonic Wars and the Crimea, and up to the year 1908—a comprehensive survey indeed! A roll of officers from 1759 to 1908 shows the amount of research which Major Kerr has lavished on his book, and there are also notes on uniform, Colours, etc., and six coloured plates of uniform from 1685 to 1854, with numerous illustrations and badges. In a useful Addenda, the author gives extracts from Patent Rolls, 1263–1345, and finishes up with notes on the Special Reserve. I cannot help thinking that, with its wealth of information, its rolls of officers, and its attractive illustrations, it should prove of great interest to Somerset county families, and I have pleasure in commending the book to their notice.

WALTER BRAITHWAITE, *General,*

Colonel, The Somerset Light Infantry (Prince Albert's).

PREFACE

THE information contained in this Record has been mainly obtained from the following sources :—

- (1) Documents in the British Museum and Public Record Office.
- (2) “Memorandum of the 1st Somerset Militia,” being an MSS. book by Lieutenant W. H. Chorley, who was Adjutant in 1815. The book is in the County Museum.
- (3) Regimental Order and Letter Books.
- (4) Local newspapers.

The “Memorandum” appears to be a précis of the chief events and orders between 1763 and 1816, but deals mainly with the period 1793–1816. It contains much interesting information, but its value is considerably diminished by the great paucity of dates. This is especially the case in regard to orders, and for this reason I have grouped together the orders that appear to belong to one year or station.

The existing Regimental Order and Letter Books between them cover fairly completely the period 1787–1816, but there are some serious gaps, the worst being during 1814, when the Regiment was in Ireland.

It is much to be regretted that two valuable old order books, which were in possession of the Regiment up till 1908, have since disappeared, as has also the Officers’ Succession Book. These two order books covered the periods of embodiment during the Napoleonic Wars and were full of interest.

The *Taunton Courier*, *Exeter Flying Post*, *Bath Chronicle* and *Western Flying Post* have all provided material of interest. From the last named the dates of nearly all the trainings between 1764 and 1777 have been obtained.

My thanks are due to all those who have aided me, either by information or the loan of original documents, photos, uniform, etc., especially the following :—The late Earl of Devon, for sketches of badges and buttons in his possession, and for his constant help in elucidating difficult points ; to Mrs. Torbock, for documents, photos and uniform that belonged to her father, the late Colonel H. C. Henley ; to Mrs. Rawlins, for documents and portions of uniforms that belonged to her brother, the late Major T. L. Walsh ; to Mr. A. S. White, of the War Office Library, for information regarding Colours ; to Mr. A. MacMillan, Secretary of the *Western Gazette*, for much research work in the old files of the *Western Flying Post* ; to Mr. W. G. Fisher, for research work at the County Museum ; and to Captain H. Oakes-Jones, for his beautiful illustrations of the Uniform of the Regiment.

Any additions to this Record, or correction of errors, will be welcomed.

W. J. W. K.

NORTHBROOK PARK,
NEAR EXETER.

CONTENTS

CHAPTER I

PAGE

BEFORE 1758

Tribal Levies—The Fyrd—Feudal System—Posse Comitatus—Muster of 1539—Appointment of Lords-Lieutenants, 1549—First Regiment of Somerset Militia, 1559—The Armada Muster, 1588—Train Bands, 1615—The Civil War—Militia placed under Commissioners—Cromwell's organization—The Restoration—Militia again placed under Lords-Lieutenants—Militia called out, 1660—Somerset Militia of 1679. The Monmouth Rebellion, 1685—Somerset Militia of 1697—The Militia Act of 1757

CHAPTER II

1758—1762

1758 : Formation of the Regiment quota for the County. 1759 : Warrant for Colours, Arms and Accoutrements, etc.—Colonels and strength of Regiment—Embodied July 3rd, 1759—To Plymouth—County grant to serving Militiamen—Seniority of Regiments—Rates of pay—Appointment of Adjutant. 1760 : To Exeter. 1761 : To Crookhorne, Chard, etc.—To Guildford, Stoke, etc., in July ; altered to Salisbury—To Taunton in October—Insurance scheme. 1762 : To Exeter to relieve 3rd Devons and then to Plymouth—New Colours issued—Lord Poulett presents the " Colonel Colours "—To Bristol—To Taunton—Order for disembodiment ...

CHAPTER III

1763—1777

1763: The 2nd Battalion disbanded and 1st Battalion raised to twelve companies.
 1764: Notice regarding Volunteers and Substitutes. 1767: Officers who had
 served four years discharged—New Colours issued—Imprisonment for a Militiaman
 who failed to attend training. 1770: A Return of the state of Arms, etc. 1771:
 James Stiles branded for killing a comrade in a skirmish at Taunton

CHAPTER IV

1778—1792

1778 : The Regiment embodied April 13th—To Wells ; inspected by General Johnson—Officers petition to Board of Ordnance—June 11th, to Plymouth, Buckland Down ; inspected October 13th—Curious case of a girl soldier. 1779 : To Hungerford and Overton ; encamped at Cox Heath—Incidents at Cox Heath—Inspected November 1st—To Hungerford. 1780 : Tiverton—Crediton, etc.—May 29th, Plymouth Dock—Inspected August 5th—Serious riot August 12th—To Bristol, Axbridge, Bridgwater in October. 1781 : To Taunton, Wellington, etc., in March—To Plymouth and Maker—New accoutrements issued—inspected August 20th—To Warminster in October. 1782 : To Winchester in February—To Wells, Frome, etc., in April—To Maker Camp in June—To Wells, etc., in November. 1783 : To Taunton, Bridgwater, etc.—Disembodied in March. 1787 : First training since disembodiment—Ammunition allowance—New Colours issued. 1792 : Arms to be placed in a secure place

CHAPTER V

1793—1802

- 1793 : Embodied January 29th—To Plymouth and Cornwall in February—Employed against the tinnors and smugglers—To Salisbury in October. 1794 : To Dover Castle in April. 1795 : To Canterbury, March—Food riots. 1796 : Serious fire, May. 1797 : To Colchester and Yarmouth, May—Militia formed into Brigades—To Plymouth in September, but altered to Launceston, Bodmin, etc. 1798 : Instructors sent to the Supplementary Militia—Smuggling encounter—Smallpox rife. 1799 : To Exeter in October—To Poole and Weymouth—To Fareham and Portsmouth. 1800 : To Weymouth, July. 1801 : To Gosport, May.—To Taunton November. 1802 : Disembodied, April 24th 30

CHAPTER VI

1803—1816

- 1803 : Embodied, March 28th—To Exeter and Woodbury Camp in August—To Honiton, Axminster, etc., in November. 1804 : Winchester, Weymouth and Portsmouth. 1805 : Smallpox breaks out—Volunteering into the Line—To Weymouth and Lewes. 1806 : Winchester and Rye. 1807 : Volunteered for service in Ireland—Eastbourne and Portsea. 1808 : Local Militia formed, seven regiments for Somerset—To Bristol in March. 1809 : Serious dispute between senior officers—Court of Enquiry and General Court-Martial—Four officers dismissed the service—Berry Head Barracks in July. 1810 : Duty over war prisoners at Dartmoor. 1811 : Similar duties. 1812 : Regimental School established. 1813 : Maker Barracks, Cornwall, Plymouth—To Ireland in December. 1814 : Kilkenny; embarked for England in September—Orders issued for disembodiment, but cancelled—To Taunton and then to Dartmoor. 1815 : Plymouth and Dartmoor—Serious riot at Dartmoor. 1816 : Plymouth,—Disembodied at Taunton, January 31st 44

CHAPTER VII

1817—1908

- 1817-1828 : Reductions in staff. 1830 : Silver lace only to be worn by Militia. 1831 : Training at Taunton—The Ballot made use of for the last time. 1833 : Precedence of Militia Regiments decided. 1852 : Militia reorganized. 1854 : Embodied—New Colours presented. 1858 : Grenadier and Light Companies abolished, 1869 : Property qualification for Officers abolished. 1871 : Command of the Militia transferred to the Crown. 1873 : Leigh Camp rented as a training ground—Dartmoor Manœuvres. 1875 : Constituted Light Infantry. 1881 : Territorial system introduced and 1st Somerset Militia became 3rd Battalion Somerset Light Infantry. 1896-97 : Training at Orchard Portman. 1898 : Last training on Leigh Hill. 1899 : Salisbury Plain manœuvres. 1900 : Embodied. 1908 : Militia ceases to exist 58
- ROLL OF OFFICERS 67
- NOTES ON UNIFORM 91
- NOTES ON COLOURS 98
- NOTES ON THE 2ND SOMERSET MILITIA 100
- ADDENDA—
- EXTRACTS FROM PATENT ROLLS 105
- THE SPECIAL RESERVE 107

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

	PAGE
PLATE I.—OFFICER'S SHAKO PLATE, 1840-54	I
CROSS-BELT PLATE, 1840-54	I
SKIRT ORNAMENT OF GRENADIER COMPANY, 1852	I
„ II.—SILVER GORGET TEMPO, GEORGE II	20
GILT GORGET TEMPO, GEORGE III	20
COATEE BUTTON, 1853	20
GLENGARRY CAP BADGE, 1874-1880	20
TUNIC BUTTON, 1861-1880	20
„ III.—CROSS-BELT PLATE, WEST MENDIP LOCAL REGIMENT	40
CROSS-BELT PLATE, EAST MENDIP LOCAL MILITIA	40
EAST MENDIP LOCAL MILITIA, 1812	40
„ IV.—SHAKO PLATE, 1861-1880	88
OFFICER'S SHAKO PLATE, 1870	88
COATEE BUTTON, 1853, 2ND SOMERSET	88
OFFICER'S CROSS-BELT PLATE, CIRCA 1820-37	88

COLOURED PLATES

1685		<i>Frontispiece</i>
		FACING PAGE
1759		8
1787		28
1812-16		52
1831		58
1854		60



Officer's Shako Plate, 1840-54.



Cross-belt Plate, 1840-54.



Skirt Ornament of Grenadier Company, 1852.

CHAPTER I

BEFORE 1758

Tribal Levies—The Fyrd—Feudal System—Posse Comitatus—Muster of 1539—Appointment of Lords-Lieutenants, 1549—First Regiment of Somerset Militia, 1559—The Armada Muster, 1588—Train Bands, 1615—The Civil War—Militia placed under Commissioners—Cromwell's organization—The Restoration—Militia again placed under Lords-Lieutenants—Militia called out, 1660—Somerset Militia of 1679—The Monmouth Rebellion, 1685—Somerset Militia of 1697—The Militia Act of 1757.

FROM the earliest times, nations and tribes have always been found to unite in defence of their country and homes when threatened with invasion. The Roman invaders of Britain were opposed by an armed tribal organization on the part of the ancient Britons.

In Saxon times all men who were able to bear arms were compelled to do so if there was a danger of invasion or rebellion. This force was called the Fyrd; it was periodically drilled and its arms inspected. The Fyrd retained its position till about twenty years after the Norman Conquest.

The great Domesday Survey of 1088 and the introduction of the Feudal Law caused an alteration in military service. The whole country was divided into "knights fees." Every tenant holding direct from the King had to be in readiness to serve the King in war, either at home or abroad, for forty days at his own expense. Those who held several knights fees had to provide substitutes for those for which they did not serve in person. Payment in lieu of service was accepted, such sums being used to hire troops. This led to many abuses, while the right to claim discharge after forty days' service caused, on several occasions, the break up of the army.

In addition to this force, there also existed the "Posse Comitatus," which more closely resembled the Militia, as it was not obliged to serve abroad, its first duty being to keep peace within its own county; but in case of invasion or emergency, it could be called upon to act out of the county, not abroad. This force was composed of all free-men between fifteen and sixty.

Although really a reserve force, the "Posse Comitatus" was drawn upon both in Norman times and later, by means of impressment, to complete armies raised for foreign wars.

In 1181 took place the first Assize of Arms, by which the Fyrd of former times was practically revived, every man having to bear arms in proportion to the property he possessed.

In 1285 the Statute of Winchester decreed that "all men of every rank and degree between fifteen and sixty years of age were to keep in their houses harness for to keep the peace." Fresh regulations as to the type of arms to be borne by various classes were also introduced. The system of impressing men from the Constitutional Force for service in foreign wars received a check in 1327, when Parliament passed an Act "forbidding the practice, and providing that men for the King's service must be properly enlisted and paid."

B

In the reign of Henry IV, owing to a fear of invasion, Commissioners of Array were empowered to raise and drill all men-at-arms, and to require all other able-bodied men to be armed according to their substance. An order in the year 1413 directed the Sheriffs of counties to collect the feathers from geese* for the archery purposes of their troops.

In 1497 Perkin Warbeck, the pretender, was in Taunton, and apparently found a following amongst the men of Somerset, if one can judge from the long list of fines levied in Taunton Deane on those who aided him.

In the reign of Henry VIII a great muster took place, in 1539, of "All Harnessed and Furnished Men and Others Fitt for Warr." The Muster for Somerset is as follows:—

Hundred of Stone and Cattyssagsshe	...	...	...	...	...	626
" Jynsberg	...	...	...	...	...	386
" Southpetherton	...	...	...	...	...	393
" Abdyke and Bulstone	...	...	...	...	...	708
" Crukern	...	...	...	...	...	267

and besides, in Henton St. George, Hugh Poulett, Knt. wt. 40 harness, 30 bills, 20 bows, etc.; 30 servants to Sir Hugh, and 5 tenants and 9 others. Unfortunately, no details are given as to the number of bowmen, billmen, etc., comprised in the above list. Those details are given in the case of some counties. It is evident from the above muster that each hundred of a county furnished a quota, but the above list of hundreds is obviously incomplete.

In later years we find regiments named after the places where they were raised.

An important Act was passed in the reign of Edward VI, 1549, by which Lord-Lieutenants of counties were appointed for organizing and controlling the forces, thus putting an end to the Sheriffs' power of calling the musters. The control of the Constitutional forces remained in the hands of the Lord-Lieutenants until 1871, except during the Commonwealth.

The appointment of Lord-Lieutenants was originally a yearly appointment. Deputy-Lieutenants assisted Lord-Lieutenants, and among other duties were responsible for the arms and care of the Fire Beacons.

In "Somerset and the Armada," by Emanuel Green, he states: "The following will therefore be the first complete list of names, as existing in September, 1559, of the Cappetaynes and pety Cappetaynes with their livelodes, appointed to lead one thousand footmen in Somerset, the first known complete Regiment of Somerset Militia" (S.P. Elizabeth, V, VI, p. 61).

Richard Mychell	...	...	in land £40	...	...	} 100 men.
Richard Sydenham	...	...	in livlyhood £40	...	...	
Thomas Benfylde	...	...	in land £20	...	...	} 100 men.
Thomas Isham	...	...	in lyvelode	...	...	
George Harnyge	...	...	in lands 20 marcs	...	...	} 100 men.
Peter Grene	...	...	in lands £10	...	...	
Wyllyam Crouche	...	...	in land £40	...	...	} 100 men.
John Slurggis	...	...	in land £6/13/4	...	...	
William Leversedge	...	...	in land £30	...	...	} 100 men.
John Champnes	...	...	in land £5	...	...	

* Plucking six from each goose.

Humfrey Worthe	...	...	in land	£20	...	...	} 100 men.
Bartholomew Lyte	...	...	in lyvelode	£10	...	...	
Hughe Smithe	...	...	in lands	£40	...	...	} 100 men.
Tristram Dillyngton	...	...	in lyvelode	£6/13/4	...	...	
John Ayshe	...	...	in lands	£20	...	...	} 100 men.
Thomas Walle	...	...	in lyvelode	£5	...	...	
Harry Clarke	...	...	in lands	£20	...	...	} 100 men.
James Persyvalle	...	...	in lands	£10	...	...	
Thomas Payne	...	...	in lands	£40	...	...	} 100 men.
George Ken	...	...	in lyvelode	£5	...	...	

In 1588 took place " the great muster to resist invasion by the Spanish Armada." The following list is taken from " The Abstracts of the numbers of evrie sorte of the armed men in the Counties through ye Kingdom." Taken ano 1588, Somerset.*

Ablemen	...	...	2000	Pioneers	...	...	1000
Armed	...	...	4000	Launces	...	...	50
Trained	...	...	4000	Lightors	...	...	250
Untrained	...	...	0000	Patronels	...	...	60

Of the 4,000 men shown as trained, five regiments of 800 each were formed. the commanders being George Sydenham, Sir Hen. Berkley, Sir John Stowell, Sir John Clyfton and Arthur Hopton.

Each regiment had 400 shot and musketeers, 280 corslets, and 120 bills. Archers not stated. A guard was told off for the Queen's person, the captains to be gentlemen fit by their qualities and abilities, the footmen to be house-holders, serviceable by their personage and able by their living to bear the charges of their training. The Somerset quota for this duty was fixed at 1,000 foot and 200 horse, and 600, or half the number, were sent off. In July, 1588, a further demand was made for this purpose, and 4,000 men, 50 lances and 100 light horse from Somerset marched to attend Her Majesty.

(Somerset also provided its quota for the Navy, 300 men being levied for this purpose.)

The use of the word " Militia," as applied to the Constitutional Force, seems to have come into use during this reign, and also the gradual replacing of the long-bow by firearms. The longbow was still in use in 1600, and later references are found as to the raising of archers.

The laws against impressment were ignored in 1596, and it is recorded that in London men were even impressed from churches. In the reign of James I, thousands of men were impressed for service in Ireland. Somerset provided its quota, as shown by the following extracts from Acts of the Privy Council, 1600 :—" Captains to have charge of the 2,000 men to be sent to Ireland. Sommersett—100—Captain Bentley."

James I, in 1603, abolished the old orders as to the keeping of arms. In future all arms were to be kept in stores.

In 1615 the command of the Militia by Lord-Lieutenants was suspended, and a new force called Train-Bands was ordered to be raised. This force was intended to take the place of the old county force, and was to consist of 160,000 men between the ages of sixteen and sixty. The raising of men under Commissions

* Harleian MSS.

of Array, and the dispute between the King and Parliament over the control of the Militia, are said to have contributed towards civil war.

S.P.Dom., 1626, contain the following reference to Somerset:—"We have enrolled all the ablemen from 16 to 60th, and Pioneers are also provided with working tooles."

In the following year, "A list of men (with their civil occupations) impressed and enrolled in the County of Somerset for the expedition to Portsmouth and under the conduct of Robert Dish gent."

signed—

"Sir John Stowell.
Robert Hopton.

Sir Nicholas Halswell.
Edward Popham.

Depty. Lieuts."

With the outbreak of civil war, the entire Militia force was mobilized for active service on one side or the other. It is almost impossible to follow the original county regiments through this war, owing to the confusion caused in their normal organization by the raising of new regiments on the part of both King and Parliament. Regiments being called after the names of their commanders also tends to increase the difficulty, as all trace of these names has, in many cases, been lost. Militia Horse seem to have been employed during this war, as several references appear as to good service performed by them. When Militia Horse ceased to exist seems uncertain, but there is no reference to it in the reconstruction of the Militia which took place in 1757.

In 1641 the Marquis of Hertford was appointed as "a fit person to be entrusted with the organization of the Somerset Militia."

In 1646 Colonel Pyne was commanding in West Somerset, Colonels Popham and Strode in East Somerset.

At the close of war an Act passed in 1650 placed the Militia of each county under commissioners. This system continued in force during the Commonwealth. The list of Commissioners for Somerset in 1659 comprises 55 names.

The Militia under Cromwell's organization was kept in a very efficient condition. Infantry regiments consisted of ten companies. Seven companies contained 160 men each; the Major's Company, 140; Lieutenant-Colonel's, 160; Colonel's, 200.

(After 1778 the subaltern of the Colonel's Company was called a Captain-Lieutenant. The system of Field Officers commanding companies was done away with about 1800.)

The out-of-date feudal laws were abolished by King Charles II in 1660, and Acts passed very similar to the provisions of 1650, except that the command of the Militia was once again vested in the Lords-Lieutenants instead of Commissioners. Train-Bands, except London, were abolished in 1663.

The Militia was called out in 1666 owing to the threatened invasion on the part of the French and Dutch.

The Somerset Militia in 1679 consisted of five regiments of infantry and a regiment of horse:—

THE LD.-LIEUTS. THE EARL OF WINCHELSEA'S REGT.

His own Company	...	108	Lt.-Col. Horner	...	...	102
Major Rinian	...	102	Capt. Morgan	...	...	100
Capt. Leversuch	...	100	Capt. Bull	...	...	100
Capt. Lansdowne	...	90	Capt. Rich	...	...	90—792

SIR EDWARD PHILIPS' REGT.

His own Company	...	120	Lt.-Col. Lille	...	120
Major Hoddy	...	120	Capt. Poole	...	110
Capt. Bonor's	...	113	Capt. Young	...	110
Capt. Arth...	...	110	Capt. Hippisley	...	100—903

COLONEL STOYLL'S REGT.

His own Company	...	120	Lt.-Col. Wyndham	...	120
Major Prowse	...	120	Capt. Lacy	...	100
Capt. Ven	...	100	Capt. Backen	...	90
Capt. Borland	...	90	Capt. Ligenham	...	90—830

COLONEL BERKELEY'S REGT.

His own Company	...	120	Lt.-Col. Morgan	...	120
Major Lucy	...	120	Capt. Stocker	...	100
Capt. Prater	...	90	Capt. Newman	...	90
Capt. Warman	...	90	Capt. Madock	...	90—820

SIR HASWELL TEYNT'S REGT.

His own Company	...	120	Lt.-Col. Hawley	...	120
Major Cannon	...	100	Capt. Dorson	...	100
Capt. Catford	...	90	Capt. Drewston	...	90
Capt. Gachell	...	90	Capt. Geffard	...	90—800
Total of foot			...	...	4,145

LORD FITZ-HARDINGE'S REGT. OF HORSE.

His own Troop	...	60	Maj. Sir William Bassett	...	50
Capt. Lacy, Waldron and Bull	...	...	...	each	50—260
Total of Horse and Foot			...	...	4,405

In 1685 the Monmouth Rebellion broke out, the Duke of Monmouth landing at Lyme on June 11th. News of his landing soon spread, and orders were sent to the Lord-Lieutenants instructing them to call out the Militia. The instructions sent to the Duke of Somerset, Lord-Lieutenant of the County, were as follows:—

"RIGHT TRUSTY, ETC. Whereas wee have received an account yt. James Duke of Monmouth, and divers other Traytors are lately landed at Line, and have in a hostile manner seized ye said Town, wee have thought fitt hereby to Direct and require you to raise ye Militia or such part of ye same of that our County as you shall think fitt, and to march with ye^m to any other County and assist any other of our Lieutenants. And our Pleasure is, yt. in case two or more of our Lieutenants shall be together yt. ye. Lieut. who is in his own County shall Command, and next under him such of Our other Lieuts. as shall be there according to tr. qualities: And if ye Lieut. of ye County be not present, then Our said Lieuts. are to Command also according to tr. respective degrees. And for etc. and so etc. Given etc. Whitehall 13th June 1685.

By his Maties. Command.

(Signed) SUNDERLAND."

The rebellion was of brief duration. The Duke of Monmouth marched to Taunton, where he was received with joy and gained many followers. He proceeded to Bridgewater, intending to attack Bristol. This idea was abandoned, and he marched to Wells and Frome. At Frome he received news of the failure of the Argyll rebellion in Scotland. He retreated to Bridgewater and, hearing of the

arrival of the King's forces on Sedgemoor, resolved to make a night march and attack upon them. The presence of a deep rhine or ditch in front of the camp occupied by the King's forces caused the attack to fail. Monmouth fled from the field and was captured two days later.

The Duke of Monmouth was looked upon as the champion of the Protestant religion by his adherents, and the Militia of the south-western counties were much averse to fighting against him for this reason. While some deserted to him, others dispersed to their homes. The following unsigned contemporary letter (from the Harleian MS.) shows the effect produced by the appeal to religion.

"Whilst the Armies were in motion I had an account from Severall Countys as well where Monmouth had bin, as where he had not bin, that almost all the Comon people were at a stand being possess'd by the Industrious Phanatique that their Religion was at the last Gaspe. etc. From the Kings Army we had repeated notices that the Country people were very slack in giving them any assistance, by Intelligence or otherwise, but Demean'd themselves after another manner toward the Rebels by which they had great advantages. And without doubt the Somesett Militia had behav'd themselves with Courage enough, but being possess'd by the busie Phanatique that they were fighting against their Religion, made them heartlesse."

The Somerset Militia at this time consisted of five regiments, named after their Commanding Officers :—

- (1) Sir Wm. Portman's Regiment.
- (2) Colonel Berkeley's Regiment.
- (3) Colonel Stoyell's Regiment.
- (4) Sir Ed. Phelip's Regiment.
- (5) Colonel Luttrell's Regiment.

Of these five regiments, the last three proved unreliable. The remaining two proved loyal. Colonel Berkeley's Regiment distinguished itself at Sedgemoor, and it was a detachment of Sir W. Portman's Regiment that captured the Duke of Monmouth as detailed below.

"In a heathy country on the boundaries of Dorset and Hants. hidden in a ditch, a body of the Somerset Militia discovered James Scott, Duke of Monmouth, in the dress of a shepherd, for whose apprehension a reward of £5000 had been offered. In his pockets were found some raw peas, a watch, a purse of gold, and the St. George with which many years before King Charles II decorated this his illegitimate son. But the Colonel (Sir William Portman) forbade all violence, and he was conveyed under a strong guard to Ringwood, in Hampshire, thence under escort of a large body of Militia to London, where he was brought within the walls of the Palace, and delivered by Sir William Portman to King James II."

The Regiment commanded by Sir W. Portman was the Yellow Regiment, and after the battle of Sedgemoor it formed a chain of posts from the northern extremity of Dorset to the sea. The Yellow Regiment was afterwards allowed to wear the Duke of Monmouth's crest as a badge, in recognition of the services they had rendered against the Duke.

In 1690, owing to fears of a French invasion, two regiments of Somerset Militia and two troops of horse were ordered to Exeter.

" TO LORD LIEUT. OF SOMERSET.

After our very hearty Commendation,
The continuance of the French Fleet and thereabouts causing great apprehension
that they may land in Devonshire and make an attempt on the City of Exeter,
We therefore Pray and desire Your Lordships to Order two Regiments of Foot
and two Troops of Horse of the Militia of the county of Somerset to march into the
City of Exeter and to be and remain there under the Command of the Lord Lansdown
and obey his orders, and so etc. dat. 4th August 1690.

Yours Lordships very Loving Friends,

BOLTON.	HEN. CAPELL.	PEMBROKE.	R. HAMPDEN.
BATHE.	H. POWLE.	MACLESFELD.	J. HOLT.
MONTAGUE.	H. G. GOODRICKE.	R. O. HOWARD.	H. BOSCAWEN."

Regiments were distinguished by various methods before 1757. Sometimes the name of the commander or raiser of the regiment was borne by the regiment. This was the case in Somerset, as the list for 1679 shows. In 1685 "liveries" of various colours are found, and we have regiments called the "Yellow," "Red," "Green," and so on. A third form of title was that of place names—*e.g.*, the regiment bore the name of the town where it was raised or had its headquarters. The list for 1697 shows this form.

The Militia Return for Somerset, taken from the Egerton MSS., 1697, gives the following details :—

MILITIA IN SOMERSET—D. OF ORMOND LD.-LIEUT.

Bridgewater Troop—					
Col. Nathaniel Palmer	...	...	...	1 troop	51 horse.
Wells Troop—					
Lt.-Col. John Hunt...	...	...	...	1 troop	55 horse.
Bathe Troop—					
Major Edw. Baker	...	...	...	1 troop	55 horse.
Crewkerne Troop—					
Cap. Comm. Hilliard	...	...	...	1 troop	55 horse.
Taunton Troop—					
Cap. —	...	...	...	1 troop	53 horse.
				5 troops	269 men.
Bridgewater Regt. out of 8 hundreds—					
Col. Sir John Trevellian	...	...	...	8 Companies	724 men.
Wells Regt. out of 8 hundreds—					
Col. Edward Berkeley	...	...	...	8 Companies	726 men.
Bathe Regt. out of 8 hundreds—					
Col. —	...	...	...	8 Companies	547 men.
Crewkerne Regt. out of 9 hundreds—					
Col. Namy Henly	...	...	...	8 Companies	787 men.
Taunton Regt. out of 9 hundreds—					
Col. Sir Fr. Warr	...	...	...	8 Companies	650 men
					3,434
Regt. of Horse, 5 Troops					269
Total of both					3,703

RETURNS.

"That to the best of their knowledge there are none at present chargeable to the Militia of this County by Law but who are charged to the same, for they do not believe the parishes out of which the men comes will hardly sufferr their neighbours to escape scott free and they to bear the Burthen."

The Militia Horse appears to have been provided by the peers and others according to their estates: "... These Lords not having been of late charged by their Peers, do not send in their Horse."

In 1714 new arms were issued to the Militia, a curious feature being the introduction of muskets for the infantry with barrels five feet in length, and bayonets.

The Militia between 1714 and 1756 was practically ignored, but the outbreak of war with France in the latter year caused a great revival, which produced in 1757 an important Act (30 Geo. III, c. 25), followed by an explanatory Act in 1758. These two Acts placed the Militia on much the same standing as it occupied till 1881. The principal provisions were as follows:—Lord-Lieutenants were empowered to call out the Militia, to appoint Deputy-Lieutenants, to assist in organizing the Militia, and to grant commissions to officers of the Militia. The names of Deputy-Lieutenants and officers had to be submitted to the King for his approval before appointment, and a property qualification was fixed by the Act as necessary for holding a commission. These qualifications were as follows:—Colonel or Deputy-Lieutenant, an estate of the annual value of £400 or heir apparent to an estate of the annual value of £800. For a Lieutenant-Colonel, the amount was £300 or £600; for a Captain, £200 or £400; Lieutenant, £100; Ensign, £50. Half of the qualification had to be in the county for which the Militia commission was held. The younger sons of persons having estates of the annual value of £600, £200 or £100 were eligible for Commissions as Captains, Lieutenants and Ensigns respectively.

The Adjutants and Sergeants were appointed by the King, the Lord-Lieutenants submitting the names of suitable persons chosen from officers and sergeants of the Regular Army.

The men were to be Protestants and were to be chosen by ballot, which this Act first introduced. A quota was fixed for each county, the quota for Somerset being 840, but the Privy Council had power to alter the quota from time to time. The men had to be between the ages of eighteen and fifty, and the period of service was three years. By paying £10 to provide a substitute, any balloted man might avoid service. The parishes might provide volunteers or substitutes, paying them the bounty fixed by the parish. Peers, officers of the Regulars and Militia, clergymen, apprentices and parish officers were exempt.

The Militia was not liable to serve out of Great Britain, but in case of actual invasion, imminent national danger or rebellion, the King was authorized to call out and embody the Militia. The Militia was to be trained for 28 days in each year, but these days were not to be continuous. The pay was to be the same as that of the Army. The Deputy-Lieutenants and magistrates could inflict fines or imprisonment for absence or drunkenness, the power of the Colonel and officers to enforce discipline being very limited.

In order to provide a reserve of trained officers, those officers who had served four years could be changed if an equal number of duly qualified persons wished to receive commissions.



1759.

1758—1762

UNDER the provisions of the Militia Acts of 1757, the County of Somerset had to provide a quota of 840 men. The necessary steps for raising the required 1758. quota and for appointing the officers were begun in 1758, and three-fifths 1759. of the total number requisite had been obtained by January, 1759, as shown in the following authority for the issue of arms, etc.

" 13th February, 1759.

“ The Earl Poulett, his Majesty's Lieutenant for the County of Somerset, having agreeably to the Acts of Parliament for the better ordering the Militia Forces in that part of Great Britain called England, certified and Returned to the King, that three-fifths of the Regiment of Militia for the County of Somerset have been chosen and enrolled, and that three-fifths of the Commissioned Officers for the same have been appointed, and taken out their Commissions and entered their Qualifications, and His Lordship in consequence thereof desired that the necessary Arms, Accoutrements, etc., may be Delivered for the Use of the same Regiment of Militia.

“ I am, Gentlemen,

" Your most Obedient Honourable Servant,

“W. PITT.”*

A RETURN OF ARMS, ACCOUTREMENTS, AMMUNITION, ETC., WANTING TO COMPLEAT THE TWO BATTALIONS OF MILITIA OF THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET COMMANDED BY THE RIGHT HON'BLE EARL POULETT.

* Ordnance Warrants, W.O. 55/413.

Halberts for Sergeants	42
Swords and Belts for ditto	42
Drums and Drum Cases	28
Pairs of Drum Sticks	28
Drum Slings	28
Swords for Drummers	28
Waistbelts for ditto	28
Firelocks with Bayonets and Slings	840
Swords with Belts for Private Men	840
Cartridge Boxes with Straps and Frogs	840
Brushes and Prickers	840
Hammer Caps	840
Formers for Cartridges	42
Iron Rammer with Worms	42
Powder Bags	42

Ammunition.

Barrels of Serviceable Powder	7
Barrels of Exercising Powder, 1 for each Coy.	14
Balls, forty each man	33,600
Flints, 4 for each man	3,360
Rheams of Fine Cartridge Paper	14

The two Battalions were each of seven companies. The Colonel of the 1st Battalion was the Right Honourable John Earl Poulett. The Colonel of the 2nd Battalion was Sir Charles Kemeys Tynte, Bart. The Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel and Major each had a company.

The earliest return for the 1st Battalion is dated June 23rd, 1759, and shows the strength then to have been : 21 officers, 21 sergeants, 21 corporals, 14 drummers and 381 privates. Wanting to complete, 18. In the column of "Remarks" appears the following : " By changing Lord North's Sergeant he may get twelve volunteers who are very fine men, which will make his Company more than complete." A similar return exists for the 2nd Battalion.

Each Regiment had an Adjutant, one Sergeant-Major out of the sergeants, one Drum-Major out of the drums.* Both Battalions were embodied on July 3rd, 1759, and on the following day orders were issued for their march—the 1st Battalion to Plymouth to serve under the command of Major-General Durore, and the 2nd Battalion to Biddeford.†

The *Western Flying Post* for Monday, July 16th, states :—

" We are assured that the Militia in the County of Somerset have received orders to muster next Wednesday at Taunton, to march from thence on Friday for Plymouth, etc.

" *Somerset, Bridgewater, 12th of July, 1759.*—It is unanimously resolved, by a great number of the Justices of the Peace, at the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace now held at Bridgewater, in and for the County of Somerset ; That they will in their Respective Neighbourhoods order a comfortable provision to be allowed out of the County Stock, for the Support and Maintenance of the Families of such Militia Men now ordered out on actual Service, as may have occasion for Assistance in their Absence ; and they do strongly and earnestly recommend to all Justices to follow the same Practice ; as they are by the strongest Conviction made sensible

* S.P.D., Military.

† Militia Marching Bk., Vol. 91.

that too much encouragement cannot be given to a National Militia (at all times desirable) and which in the present Crisis of Affairs has given so considerable an Addition of Strength to the Hands of Government."

"JOHN DONNE, *Clerk of the Peace.*"

From the *Western Flying Post*, Monday, July 23rd, 1759 :—

"*Bath, July 16th.*—This day the Militia for this Division march to Wells, in their way to Biddeford in Devonshire, to which place the whole Regiment for the County of Somerset have received Orders to repair immediately. The Officers and Men are in high spirits."

Western Flying Post, July 30th, 1759 :—"By a state taken of the Militia. It appears there is now near 19,940 Officered and nearly compleat. The whole number that ought to be raised is 31,960."

On August 13th the garrison of Plymouth fired three rounds in honour of the defeat of the French by Prince Ferdinand. (The same ceremony took place on November 9th, being His Majesty's birthday.)

There appear to have been difficulties in deciding the seniority of Militia regiments when regiments from various counties were serving together, and in September an order was issued that "Militia Regiments are not to have any fixed rank or precedence, but the first to arrive in any Camp or Garrison to have seniority and the others as they arrive."

This does not appear to have been a satisfactory solution of the difficulty, as next year (1760) a War Office Order was published stating that the precedence of Militia regiments serving together was to be determined by drawing lots.

His Majesty having confirmed the sentence of death passed upon Private John King, of General Jefferies' Regiment, the garrison of the Dock paraded on December 10th to witness the execution, being formed into a circle three deep (General Order, December 8th, 1759).

The rates of pay at this time were as follows :—

								Rate per Day.	
								s.	d.
Colonel (as such)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	0
In lieu of Servant	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	0
Lt.-Colonel (as such)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	0
Major (as such)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	0
Adjutant	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	0
Quartermaster	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	0
In lieu of Servant	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		8
Surgeon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	0
Captain	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	0
In lieu of Servant	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	0
Lieutenant	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	0
In lieu of Servant	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		8
Ensign	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	0
In lieu of Servant	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		8
Sergeants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
Corporals and Drummers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		8
Privates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		6
Agent	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	0

The Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel and Major, in addition to the above rates of pay, also received Captain's pay, as they each had a company. The Adjutant, Quartermaster and Surgeon, if they held a Commission as Lieutenant or Ensign, received in addition the pay of their rank.

Some difficulty seems to have been experienced in obtaining an Adjutant, judging from Lord Poulett's letter to the Secretary of State, extracts of which are given below :—

“ HINTON,
Jan. 16th, 1760.

“ DEAR SIR,

“ The First Battalion of the Somersetshire Militia having been so long without an adjutant . . . I take a liberty . . . of applying to you for an adjutant. . . .

“ For the pay at present being no more than half what an Adjutant is allowed when the Regiment is on the footing of Militia (tho' the service is now so much harder), I find it very difficult to get a proper person, even in the county, where *a person with a qualification* may now have an opportunity and the advantage of holding an ensign's commission in the same Battalion, which is now vacant.

“ I am the more pressed as General Durore is a little impatient to have one name some one, tho' he has no officer of the regulars to recommend, and as an improper person named only to stop a gap is not so easily removed when we return again to militia, tho' it be absolutely necessary to have such a one as maybe wellcome and find Quarters at the gentlemen's houses whose companys he goes to visit when we return again to Militia. . . .

“ Yours etc.,
“ POULETT.”

On March 24th Lord Poulett wrote again to the Secretary of State, stating that Lieutenant Wm. Corfield, of Lord C. Haig's Regiment, was willing to serve as Adjutant of the 1st Somerset, in the place of Captain Slocombe, deceased, and asking that this officer might be recommended to His Majesty for this purpose and also for an Ensigncy in the same Battalion. Lieutenant Corfield was appointed Ensign and Adjutant in the following month.

The Regiment remained at Plymouth till June, 1760, when orders were issued on June 23rd for its march to Exeter for the purpose of assisting the 1760. Dorsetshire Militia in guarding French prisoners of war there.

On December 18th the Regiment received orders to march into Somersetshire, where it was quartered at Taunton.

The *Western Flying Post* for December 22nd, 1760, contains an advertisement of a meeting of the Deputy-Lieutenants of Somerset at the White Swann Inn, Wells, on January 13th, 1761, “ To proceed in the execution of the law relating to the Militia for and in respect of the said county.”

On February 20th, 1761, Earl Poulett received orders for the 1st Somerset to march immediately “ to such place or places in the County of Somerset as you shall think proper, provided they do not interfere with the quarters of 1761. any of H.M. other forces (acquainting this office of their disposition.”*

The disposition of the seven companies was as follows :—Crookthorne, 1 ; Chard, 1 ; B'ps Hull and Adjs., 1 ; Nether Stowey, 1 ; Langport, 1 ; Wincanton,

1; Wiviliscombe, 1. Both the Somerset Battalions were ordered on July 7th to proceed to Guilford, Stoke, Shalford and Catherine Hill, Godalmin, Farnham and Odiam.* This order was, however, altered on July 11th, the 1st Battalion proceeding to Salisbury, Fisherton, Harnham and Milford, and the 2nd Battalion to Godalmin.

A route was sent on October 15th for the 1st Battalion to march from Salisbury on October 17th through Shaftsbury to Taunton and Bridgwater.*

Schemes for insurance against having to serve in the Militia appear to have come into being about this time. Several advertisements of this nature occur in the *Western Flying Post* for October, the premium for insurance varying from 5s. to 10s. 6d. The following example in this paper of October 19th is given in full :—

“ CHARD, “ October 12th, 1761.

“ THE CHEAPEST MILITIA INSURANCE OFFICE FOR SOMERSET.”

“ Any Person liable to serve in the Militia for the said County at the next or any future Ballotting, within the space of Three Years from the Date hereof, may be indemnified by paying only Five Shillings into the hands of Mr. Edwards, or Mr. Watts in Chard; who hereby promise to provide fit Substitutes for those who shall be ballotted, or pay the Penalty directed by the last Act of Parliament.

“ N.B.—Great Encouragement will be given to fit Persons who are willing to serve as Substitutes, by applying as above; and proper offices are kept in most Towns in the said County for receiving the money and giving securities to those that are willing to be indemnified.”

The 1st Somerset were ordered on November 13th to march from Bridgwater to Taunton, where they remained till June, 1762.

The following extracts are from the *Western Flying Post* :—

November 2nd, 1761.—“ We hear from Taunton that the general ballotting for the Somerset Militia will be on Tuesday the 16th instant.”

December 14th.—Lieutenants and Ensigns are advertised for for both Battalions of the Somerset Militia.

December 28th.—A meeting is announced of the Deputy-Lieutenants to be held at the White Swan Inn, Wells, on Tuesday, January 12th, 1762, “ in order to proceed in the Execution of the laws relating to the Militia.”

On June 3rd the 1st Somerset were ordered to march from Taunton to Exeter to relieve the 1st Devon Militia in their duty over the French prisoners of war there, and to remain there until relieved by the 3rd Devon Militia. On 1762. being relieved by the 3rd Devons, the 1st Somerset were to proceed to Plymouth to relieve the 4th Devon Militia and to assist in guarding the French prisoners of war there.

* Militia Marching Book, Vol. 92.

New Colours were issued to both Battalions of the Somersets this year. The following extract is from the Warrant to the Board of Ordnance :—

“ GEORGE R.

“ Whereas it has been humbly represented unto Us that a Sett of Colours is wanted for the Use of Our Somersetsh. Regiment of Militia ; our Will and Pleasure is that . . . You cause a Sett of Colours to be issued and delivered to the Colonel of our said Regiment. . .

“ Given, etc. . . . the 16th Day of June, 1762.

“ EGREMONT.”

Apparently Lord Poulett was not quite satisfied with the type of “ Colonel Colours ” provided by the Board of Ordnance, with the result that he provided these Colours himself, as shown by the following extracts from the Ordnance Minutes of October 15th and 22nd.

“ OLD PALACE YARD, WESTMINSTER.

“ Friday, 15th October, 1762.

“ Mr. Carey Creed having by letter of yesterday desired that the Earle Poulett, Colonel of the Somersetshire Militia, may be paid for the Colonel Colours, as he provided them himself at an expense exceeding the usual Allowance of the Office.

“ Ordered that the proper clerk report whether any, and what, Colours were delivered from this Office.”

“ Friday, 22nd October, 1762.

“ Mr. Durnford having pursuant to Minute of 15th reported by letter of 18 Instant that only two Union Colours have been delivered for use of the Somersetshire Militia, and that the two Colours with the Lord Lieutenants Arms have been provided.

“ Ordered that the Office Price be paid for them by Bill and Debenture.”

When relieved by the 74th Foot, the 1st Somerset were ordered on August 20th to march to Bristol for the purpose of assisting in the duty over the French prisoners of war there.

The following extract is from the *Western Flying Post* of October 11th, 1762 :—

“ We hear from Taunton that near 100 of the Somerset Militia have been inoculated by Mr. Bryant, their Surgeon, without the loss of a man.”

The Commanding Officer on November 30th received instructions for the 1st Somerset to march to such place or places in the County of Somerset as he should think proper (Militia Marching Book, Vol. 94).

The Battalion proceeded to Taunton and was disembodied on December 31st, the following letter of December 23rd being the official order to Earl Poulett :—

“ The King having been pleased to sign Orders for disembodiment of the Corps of Militia for the County of Somerset, under your Command with all convenient speed, I am commanded by His Majesty, in his name to express to you the great Satisfaction He has received from the Seasonable and meritorious Service of the Militia of that County, and as a mark of His Royal approbation, I am commanded to acquaint you, that His Majesty is pleased to permit each non-commissioned

officer and private man to keep his clothes and knapsack, which are at present in wear, and also to allow them respectively fourteen days Pay from the day of their being disembodied."

The letter goes on to give orders for the proper settling up of the men's accounts and for the collecting and storage of arms and accoutrements. A caution is given against men being allowed to travel with their arms, or more than three together. The letter concludes with an expression of satisfaction for "the Good Behaviour, Activity, and Zeal of the Officers and Private Men of His Majesty's Militia exerted for the security and defence of this Kingdom."

CHAPTER III

1763—1777

1763: The 2nd Battalion disbanded and 1st Battalion raised to twelve Companies. 1764: Notice regarding Volunteers and Substitutes. 1767: Officers who had served four years discharged—New Colours issued—Imprisonment for a Militiaman who failed to attend training—1770: A Return of the state of Arms, etc. 1771: James Stiles branded for killing a comrade in a skirmish at Taunton.

THE embodiment of the Militia during the Seven Years' War had proved that a simplification of the Militia Acts was necessary. A new Act (2 Geo. III, c. 20) was accordingly passed in this year. This Act contained a provision for the 1763. reduction of the number of regiments in those counties in which they were out of proportion to the number of men raised. A revision of the Somerset Militia consequently became necessary. The 2nd Battalion was disbanded. The 1st Battalion was retained, and its establishment increased from seven to twelve companies. The whole quota of men for the county was thus contained in one battalion of twelve companies instead of in two battalions of seven companies each. The Adjutant of the disbanded battalion was Lieutenant Daniel Daniel; he had previously been Adjutant of the 13th Regiment, and had been present at Fontenoy (wounded) and Culloden.

Very little information is obtainable regarding the Regiment during the fifteen years following the disembodiment of 1762. No Order or Letter Books are available, nor can the Lord-Lieutenant's Minute Books be traced. The Public Record Office has also very few documents relating to the Regiment. Such information as is obtainable has mainly been derived from the old files of the *Western Flying Post*.

Extract from the *Western Flying Post*, September 19th, 1763:—

" CREWKERNE, SOMERSET,

" Sept. 14, 1763.

" Gentlemen of the County of Somerset are hereby acquainted ' That on the reform and new Regulation of the Militia, Ensigns are wanted to compleat the Regiment; and that a Geographical Disposition and local Consideration of the Vicinity of Officers to their several Companies, is not now so necessary as it was on the 1st Institution of the Militia, when the Companies were exercised separately, and in their own Districts; which are now to be exercised at a place of general Rendezvous.

" Gentlemen therefore who have the interest of their Country and County at Heart, are desired to engage their Friends to offer their Services in this Capacity, as soon as possible, the Regiment being ordered to assemble at Taunton on the 8th day of October, next.

" Any further Invitation would be unnecessary in a County that was one of the first and most zealous in promoting this great National Constitutional Measure,

and provincial one too, when it is considered what a Burthen the five Pound a Man will bring on the County, if the Militia is not supported, which Consideration also it is hoped will engage those Deputy Lieutenants who have neglected to act, to attend the service of their Country.

“ JOHN DONNE, *Clerk of the General Meeting,*

“ By order of the Lord Lieutenant.”

Extract from the *Western Flying Post*, July 23rd, 1764 :—

“ No regard having been paid by the Recruiting Officers in the County of Somerset to that Part of the Militia Act of the 2nd of George the Third Page 66, relative to the enlisting substitutes and hired Volunteers, by making Amends to the respective Parishes to which they belong : This is to refer those Officers to that Part of the Act, and to inform them that as such Proceedings are directly contrary to the Laws of their Country, that the Money to be paid as directed by Act of Parliament will be demanded of them, and that on their Refusal they will be prosecuted at Law, and an Action of False Imprisonment or wrongful Detainer may be brought against such Recruiting Officer, after the proper Application of his Discharge as well as Complaint be made to the War Office ; for every Officer is supposed to be acquainted with the 11th Section of the Articles of War.

“ And as the Overseers in general through the Country are unacquainted with that Part of the Act, this is to inform and instruct them therein, and to advise the Overseers of such Parishes whose Militia Men have been already thus illegally inlisted, to apply to such recruiting officer for the Satisfaction due to the Parish by Act of Parliament, and on refusal of such Satisfaction to apply to a justice of the Peace, and at the same Time to send Notice of it to the Lord Lieutenant of the County.

“ It is also recommended to all Justices of the Peace, to enquire of any new Recruits, if they are Militia Men, and to be careful of swearing in any Militia Men, before Satisfaction be made to such Parish, as it may otherwise bring a Burthen on their Parishes.

“ By Order of the Lord Lieutenant,

“ JOHN DONNE,

“ *Clerk of the General Meeting.*

“ CREWKERNE,

“ *July 18, 1764.*”

The following notice is the usual form in which the annual training is notified in the *Western Flying Post*, but on some occasions just a brief notice appears that the Regiment will assemble at Taunton for its 28 days' exercise 1764. on a certain date. For the years 1773 and 1777 no notice can be found.

Extract from the *Western Flying Post*, July 30th, 1764 :—

“ COUNTY OF SOMERSET.

“ At a General Meeting of the Lord Lieutenant and Deputy Lieutenants of the said County, held at Hinton Saint George, in and for the said County, the Twenty-ninth Day of May, in the Year of our Lord, 1764, it is directed and appointed that

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the Militia of this County be trained and exercised by Regiment, for Twenty-eight Days together (including their marching Days) commencing on the Fourth Day of October next ; and in order thereto, that the respective Companies of the said Regiment do severally assemble and meet on the said Fourth Day of October, at the several Places where their Arms and Accoutrements are respectively lodged, as herein after-mentioned ; and do with all convenient Speed march with the same from thence to the Town of Taunton, in the said County, to be trained and exercised pursuant to the Act of Parliament ; and that the said several Companies be quartered and billited on their March and Rout to and from Taunton as the Law directs ; And on their arrival there, that they be quartered and billited in the several Parishes of Saint Mary Magdalene and Saint James, in the said County.

<i>Companies.</i>						<i>Places of Meeting.</i>
Earl Poulett's	...	...	...	...	...	Crewkerne.
Lieut.-Col. Helliard's	...	...	...	...	...	Ilminster.
Major Mallock's	...	...	...	...	...	Taunton.
<i>Captains.</i>						
Graunt's	...	...	...	...	...	Stowey.
Hartgill's	...	...	...	...	...	Froome.
Notley's	...	...	...	...	...	Langport.
Gapper's	...	...	...	...	...	Wincaunton.
Daw's	...	...	...	...	...	Bath.
Stroud's	...	...	...	...	...	Somerton.
Day's	...	...	...	...	...	Bridgwater.
Somer's	...	...	...	...	...	Axbridge.
Quantock's	...	...	...	...	...	South Petherton.

" JOHN DONNE,

" Clerk of the General Meetings."

The training commenced on October 14th. The Press notice is similar in all respects to that of 1764 except that the leading company is named
1765. " Late Lord Pouletts."

A General Meeting of the Lord and Deputy Lieutenants for the County
1766. took place at 3 o'clock on Tuesday, July 19th, at the Swan Inn, Bridgwater. The training was fixed to commence on September 29th. The Press notice of August 25th contains the same officers' names as in the previous year.

A meeting of the Deputy-Lieutenants took place on July 16th at the White Swan Inn, Bridgwater, " to appoint sub-division Meetings for filling up vacancies, and for fixing the time and places for the Exercise of the Militia for the
1767. present year." In August Lieutenant-Colonel Helliard resigned. The *Bath Chronicle* for August 27th states : " C.W. Bampfylde appointed Colonel, and J. H. Coxe Lieut.-Col. in the Somersetshire Regiment of Militia."

A meeting of the Deputy-Lieutenants took place on September 29th at the Fountain Tavern, Bishopshull

" . . . for discharging officers from the Militia of the said County who have served four years therein, equal in number to the persons who have given notice that they are willing to serve in the said Militia and for other purposes relative to the said Militia.

" ROBT. BRYANT,
" *Clerk to the General Meeting.*"

The training commenced on October 12th, the officers' names being the same as in 1765. New Colours were issued this year.

From the *Western Flying Post* of November 16th :—

" John Partridge, a Private in the Somerset Militia, was convicted at Taunton in the penalty of 20 pounds for not appearing at such place and time as was appointed for exercising the said Militia, and being unable to pay the penalty was committed to gaol for six months."

The Deputy-Lieutenants met at the Fountain Tavern, Bishops Hull, on June 20th, and the training was fixed to commence on September 1st. The 1768. companies and meeting-places were as follows :—

Colonel Bampfylde's	...	...	Taunton, 11 o'clock.
Lieut.-Colonel Coxe's	...	...	Langport.
Major Mallock's	...	...	Taunton, 12 o'clock.
Captain Daw's	...	...	Somerton.
Captain Quantock's	...	...	Taunton, 2 o'clock.
Captain Stroud's	...	...	Bridgwater.
Captain Somer's	...	...	Bridgwater.
Captain Day's	...	...	Taunton, 11 o'clock.
Captain Darch's	...	...	Taunton, 1 o'clock.
Captain Halliday's	...	...	Glastonbury.
Captain Brickdale's	...	...	Wells.
Captain Barnard's	...	...	Taunton, 12 o'clock.

A notice in the *Western Flying Post* of August 7th announces that the 1769. Regiment will assemble at Taunton for its twenty-eight days' exercise on September 7th.

From a "Return of the state of Arms, Accoutrements, etc.," dated 1770. February 24th, 1880, it appears that 835 muskets, 820 bayonets, 782 belts were unserviceable out of 840 of each which were on charge. A pair of Colours are also shown as unserviceable, and most of the drums.

An Ordnance Warrant dated March 7th, 1770, directs "a new set of arms and accoutrements to be forthwith delivered to the Somersetshire Regiment of Militia."

The training commenced on May 10th. Companies and places of meeting :—

Colonel Bampfylde's	...	Taunton, May 9th, at 11 o'clock.
Lieut.-Colonel Coxe's	...	Somerton 8th, Taunton 9th, at 2 o'clock.
Major Mallock's	...	Taunton 9th, at 10 o'clock.
Captain Daw's	...	Langport 8th, Taunton 9th, at 11 o'clock.
Captain Quantock's	...	Taunton 9th, at 1 o'clock.

Captain Stroud's ...	...	Bridgwater 8th, Taunton 9th, at 12 o'clock.
Captain Darch's ...	...	Taunton 9th, at 1 o'clock.
Captain Halliday's ...	...	Glastonbury 7th, Bridgwater 8th, Taunton 9th, at 12 o'clock.
Captain Brickdale's...	...	Wells 7th, Bridgwater 8th, Taunton 9th, at 12 o'clock.
Captain Bernard's ...	...	Taunton 9th, at 1 o'clock.
Captain Popham's ...	...	Bridgwater 8th, Taunton 9th, at 12 o'clock.
Captain Poole's ...	...	Taunton 9th, at 10 o'clock.

"The Regiment to be quartered and billeted in the several parishes of Taunton St. Mary Magdalene, Taunton St. James, Wilton and Bishops Hull."

The names of Captain Somers and Captain Day do not appear in this list, and as a meeting of Deputy-Lieutenants took place at Bishops Hull on May 4th for the purpose of discharging a Captain, another person being willing to serve as a Captain, probably one or both of these officers are not shown for this reason.

The training commenced on May 15th. The following extracts are 1771. from the *Bath Chronicle* :—

July 4th.—"William Pudden of the Somersetshire Militia committed to Wilchester Gaol for six months for leaving his corps before being legally dismissed and also with being principally concerned in the late riot at Taunton."

August 22nd.—"James Stiles, a drummer in the Somersetshire Militia, for killing George Dowdy, a militia man, in a skirmish at Taunton in May last, was branded and sentenced to one year's imprisonment."

A meeting of the Deputy-Lieutenants took place on July 27th at the 1772. Bell Inn, Taunton, to appoint a time and place for the annual training.

The training was fixed to commence on September 10th, the Regiment to assemble at Taunton on Wednesday, September 9th, at 1 o'clock.

The Deputy-Lieutenants met on April 8th at the Bell Inn, Taunton, 1773. to appoint a time and place for the annual training. The date when training commenced cannot be traced.

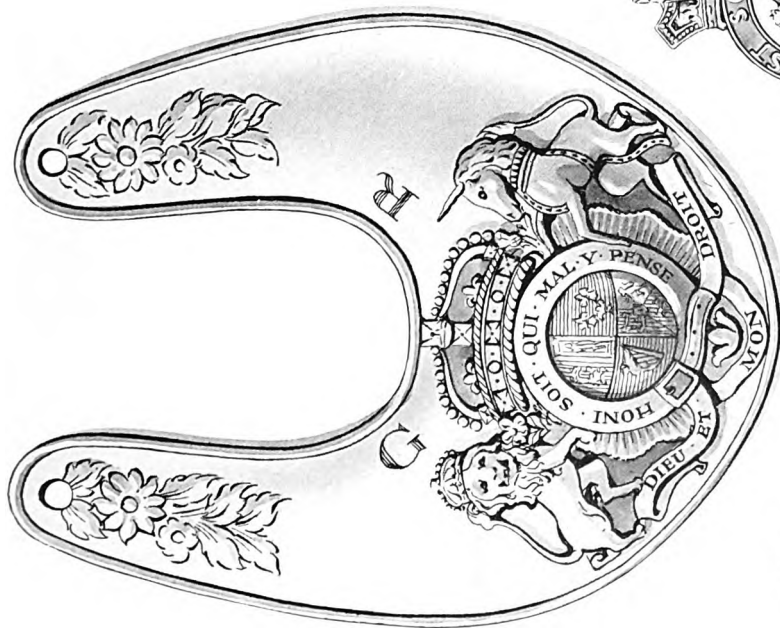
1774. Training commenced May 11th. The Company Commanders were the same as in 1770 with the exception that Captain Warren appears instead of Captain Daw.

1775. Training commenced May 11th. Captain the Earl of Cork and Captain Sandford took the place of Captains Stroud and Mallock.

1776. Training commenced May 16th. Company Commanders the same as last year.

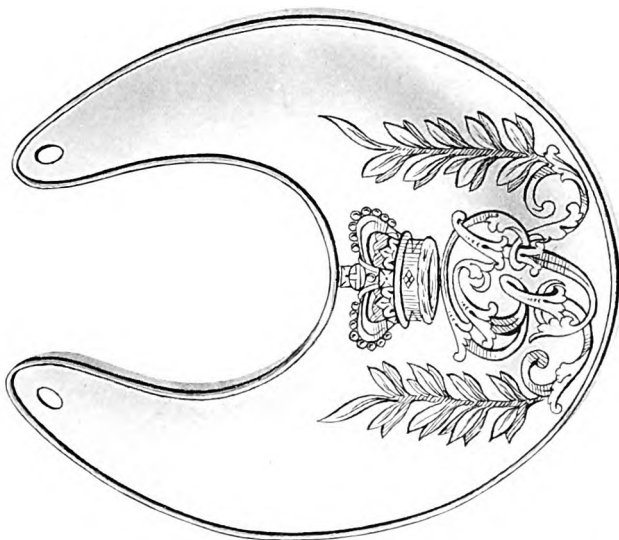
1777. Date of commencement of training cannot be traced.

Silver Gorget Tempo, Geo. II.



Coatee Button, 1853.

Gilt Gorget Tempo, Geo. III.



Tunic Button, 1861-1880.



Glengarry Cap Badge, 1874-1880.

CHAPTER IV

1778—1792

1778: The Regiment embodied April 13th—To Wells; inspected by General Johnson—Officers petition to Board of Ordnance—June 11th, to Plymouth, Buckland Down; inspected October 13th—Curious case of a girl soldier. 1779: To Hungerford and Overton; encamped at Cox Heath—Incidents at Cox Heath—Inspected, November 1st—To Hungerford. 1780: Tiverton—Crediton, etc., May 29th—Plymouth Dock—Inspected, August 5th—Serious riot, August 12th—To Bristol, Axbridge, Bridgewater in October. 1781: To Taunton, Wellington, etc., in March—To Plymouth and Maker—New accoutrements issued—Inspected August 20th,—To Warminster in October. 1782: To Winchester in February—To Wells, Frome, etc., in April—To Maker Camp in June—To Wells, etc., in November. 1783: To Taunton, Bridgewater, etc.—Disembodied in March. 1787: First training since disembodiment—Ammunition allowance—New Colours issued. 1792: Arms to be placed in a secure place.

1778. THE 1st Somerset was embodied by Royal Warrant dated March 26th, extracts of which are given below :—

"GEORGE R.

" . . . Our having received advice that the warlike preparation in France became every day more considerable, . . . Our Will & Pleasure is, and We do hereby order you all with all convenient speed to draw out and embody at such Place as you shall judge most convenient all the Militia of the County of Somerset under your Direction. . . . And for so doing this shall be your Warrant. Given at our Court at St. James's the twenty-sixth day of March 1778 in the eighteenth year of Our Reign.

" By His Majesty's Command.

" WEYMOUTH."

" TO OUR RIGHT TRUSTY,
ETC. . . . LORD NORTH.

" OUR LIEUTENANT OF OUR COUNTY
OF SOMERSET. . . ."

The *Western Flying Post* for April 6th contains a notification that the above Warrant had been sent to the Lord-Lieutenant, in consequence of which the Militia was ordered to assemble at Taunton on April 13th, the several companies to march as follows :—

" Lt.-Col. Cox's	...	...	Somerton, April 11th, halt 12th, Taunton 13th.
Capt. Halliday's	...	...	Glastonbury, April 10th, Bridgewater 11th, halt 12th, Taunton 13th.
Capt. Brickdale's	...	...	Wells, April 10th, Bridgewater 11th, halt 12th, Taunton 13th.
Capt. Popham's	...	...	Bridgewater, April 11th, halt 12th, Taunton 13th.

Capt. Warren's ... Somerton, April 11th, halt 12th, Taunton
13th.

Rt. Hon. Lord Corke's ... Bridgwater, April 11th, halt 12th, Taunton
13th.

" The six other Companies to be at Taunton, April 13th, and the whole Regiment to assemble there at one o'clock.*

" By Order of Colonel Bampfylde.

" WM. CORFIELD,

" *Adjutant.*"

On May 2nd orders were received for the Regiment to proceed to Wells, to which place it marched on May 15th. The Regiment was reviewed on May 22nd at Wells by Lieut.-General James Johnson. The report states that the exercises, firings, manœuvres and marching were good. Arms good and well kept, but the accoutrements were in a poor state, the bayonet scabbards being almost useless. The general observations state: " There is a great spirit and attention in this Regiment, and it only wants being with some good regular Corps to make a very fine one and fit for any service. It is composed of 12 Companies."

Some difficulty seems to have been experienced in obtaining new accoutrements, etc., from the Board of Ordnance, or an allowance in lieu thereof, judging from the following petition:—

" TO THE HON. THE BOARD OF ORDNANCE.

" *The Petition of the Officers of the Somerset Regt. of Militia Sheweth*

" That the Privates of the said Regt. were never furnished with Shoulder Belts, Pouches, Waist Belts or Slings, by the Hon. Board. That the Officers have out of their own pocket supplied the deficiency some years ago, but that the Accoutrements are now in a very bad condition. They therefore humbly represent their case, that the Regt. consists of 840 Privates, and they petition the Hon. Board for such an allowance in money per man, as to them shall seem meet, in lieu of such accoutrements.

" They beg leave further to represent that the Bayonet Scabbards are totally unfit for service, they have no Gun Screws, Brushes or Wires, and petition the Hon. Board for their order of an Allowance of 840 of each Article from the Stores; that they never had any Accoutrements for Pioneers, or cases for their Fifes. They beg leave to represent this deficiency and pray an order for Accoutrements for 12 Pioneers, being one man per company and six cases for Fifes.

" Signed for and in behalf of the Regt.,

" R. HIPPISEY COXE, *Lt.-Col.*

" CORK, *Major.*"

" WELLS,
29th May, 1778."

The Board replied on June 3rd: " They have no objection to supplying what is therein requested upon obtaining the usual warrant for that purpose."

* The six other Companies were commanded by Colonel C. W. Bampfylde, Captains T. Darch, F. Barnard, J. Sandford, J. Poole and J. Stroude.

On June 5th orders were issued for the Regiment to march in three divisions on June 11th and two succeeding days to the following places :—*

Six companies to Plymouth.

Six companies to Modbury and Plympton, and adjacent places.

The route was as follows :—

Thursday, 11th June	Bridgwater.
12th „	Taunton.
13th „	Collumpton.
14th „	Halt.
15th „	Exeter.
16th „	Newton.
17th „	Totness.
18th „	Modbury.
19th „	Plymouth.

The Regiment encamped on Buckland Down, on the right of the Devons, where it remained till October.

Extract from the *Exeter Flying Post* of June 20th :—

“ A soldier of the 13th Regt. in barracks here (Plymouth) was found out last Sunday to be a woman. A sweetheart of hers who had quarrelled with her three months since and now belonging to the Somerset Militia quartered here, as he was walking in the Barracks, saw her talking with some of the soldiers, and accosted her by name ; she turned pale and was immediately carried to the Colonel's where she owned the truth. The officers gave her a sum of money and she is going home again to her friends ; 'tis remarkable she learnt her Exercise surprisingly quick.”

The Regiment was inspected on October 13th at Buckland Downs by Lieut.-General Lane Parker, who, after reporting favourable on the arms, drill, etc., states as regards accoutrements that “ all the accoutrements were furnished at the expense of the Regt.” and were clean and in order but not good. The Colours are stated to be good. These Colours probably were provided regimentally.

Under general observation is the following : “ This Regiment is fit for immediate service, considered as a Corps of Militia, and if all the Officers took as much pains as the Lt.-Col. and Major, would soon be equal to any. . . . However, upon the whole there is good reason to expect it will be in exceeding good order next Spring, will do its business well and have a very Soldier-like air. It is a fine body of Militia in point of numbers and of men. . . .”

The Regiment marched from Buckland Down on October 22nd to Plymouth Dock, where it was stationed until May, 1779.

Extracts from the *Exeter Flying Post* :—

October 28th.—“ Sunday morning (James) Goff, Ensign of the Somerset Militia, threw himself out of a three pair of stairs window at the Kings Arms Inn, Plymouth, and was killed on the spot.”

December 29th.—“ Last night upwards of 100 of the American prisoners of war confined in Mill Prison made their escape, but some few of them are secured since.”

* Militia Marching Book, W.O. 5/95.

Extract from the *Exeter Flying Post* :—

Tuesday, February 10th.—"The remains of (John) Sanford of Minehead, 1779. Esq., late Captain of the Somerset Militia, who died at Plymouth, were carried through this city (Exeter) to be deposited in the family vault."

On May 19th orders were issued for the Regiment to march in two divisions, on May 25th and 26th, to the following places :—*

First division to Hungerford, second division to Overton. The route was as follows :—

Tuesday, 25th May	Modbury.
26th "	Totness.
27th "	Halt.
28th "	Newton Bushell and adjacents.
29th "	Exeter and St. Thomas.
30th "	Halt.
31st "	Bradninch, Collumpton and Silverton.
1st June	Wellington.
2nd "	Taunton.
3rd "	Halt.
4th "	Bridgwater.
5th "	Wells.
6th "	Halt.
7th "	Frome and Philipsnorton.
8th "	Devizes and Devizes Green.
9th "	Marlborough, Preshute, Fifield and Overton.
10th "	Halt.
11th "	Hungerford, Great Bedwin and Ramsbury and remain.

The second division started from Modbury on May 26th and followed the same route as far as Overton, where it was to remain. On arrival at Marlborough the Regiment received orders that it was not to remain at Hungerford and Overton, but was to proceed to Cox Heath, there to encamp. The route from Hungerford to Cox Heath was as follows :—

11th June	Hungerford.
12th "	Newbury Speen and Spinham Lane.
13th "	Halt.
14th "	Reading.
15th "	Maidenhead and Maidenhead Bridge.
16th "	Hounslow, Isleworth and Twickenham.
17th "	Halt.
18th "	Greenwich, Blackheath and Deptford.
19th "	Craigford and Dartford.
20th "	Halt.
21st "	Rochester, Stroud, Finsbury, Chatham and Brompton.
22nd "	Maidstone.
23rd "	Encamp at Cox Heath and remain.

* Militia Marching Book, W.O. 5/95.

A considerable force was encamped at Cox Heath. In addition to Regular troops, Militia regiments from the following counties were also present : Devon, Dorset, Gloucester, Bucks., Monmouth, Northampton, Norfolk, Somerset, Lincoln, Rutland, Worcester and York.

Exeter Flying Post, July 15th :—"The Rt. Hon. Lord Amhurst reviews the troops at Cox Heath, commanded by Genl. Pierson."

Lord North reviewed the 1st Somerset at Cox Heath on August 16th (*Western Flying Post*).

The following extracts from the *Exeter Flying Post* of August 27th and September 3rd show that life at Cox Heath was not without its dangers.

"*Cox Heath Camp*.—Last night, 19th, Captain Emmerson was stopt by the Provost Guard about half a mile from Maidstone. Corporal Jeering stopped him, and desired to know where he was going, if he had permission and such other necessary questions as his duty required. Captain Emmerson is an officer in the Bucks ; he only told the Corporal, 'I'm an officer, let me pass or I'll shoot you.' The Corporal endeavouring to seize him, on his refusing to comply with his request, made the sign for assistance, and Captain Emmerson said 'D—n you,' then fired a pistol at him and wounded him in the right breast. The Guard immediately coming up, and Captain Emmerson endeavouring to escape, he was unfortunately shot dead by the guard. Three men fired, by whom he was killed cannot be ascertained. The Corporal is in a very dangerous way, and is in the New General Hospital."

"*Cox Heath Camp, 24th August*.—Lieut. Williams of the Monmouth was tried and acquitted of inciting his men. He challenged his accuser, Lt.-Col. Owens of the same Regt., and they fought behind the lines of the Northampton. They fired twice, and on the third shot, Lieut. Williams shot Lt.-Col. Owens in the left breast, and he died seven minutes afterwards. Lieut. Williams, who was a relative, is said to be nearly dead with grief."

The *Western Flying Post* of October 4th reports the following incident from Bath :—

"One Cray, a chimney sweeper, being ballotted into the Militia, his wife (to prevent his serving) actually chopped off the thumb of his right hand. The husband has given out that it was done while he was asleep, but it is believed she performed this resolute act at his own request."

The Regiment was inspected on November 1st by Lieut.-General Pierson. The arms, accoutrements and clothing are stated to be good, and the marching, firing, etc., in general, good. Under "General Observations" is the following :—

"This is one of the largest Corps of the Militia, and a very fine and able body of men. They rather want steadiness and being better set up. They marched into Camp with about a third of the Regiment entire new men, who had everything to learn."

In November the camp at Cox Heath broke up and the Regiment marched in two divisions to Hungerford and Newbury. The route was as follows (*Militia Marching Book*, W.O. 5/96) :—

24th November	Sevenoaks, Seal and Riverhead.
25th ,,	Halt.

26th November	Bromley, Hays and Wickham.
27th ,,	Kingston.
28th ,,	Halt.
29th ,,	Staines, Egham and Egham Hithe.
30th ,,	Maidenhead and Maidenhead Bridge.
1st December	Reading.
2nd ,,	Halt.
3rd ,,	Newbury, Speem and Spinham Lane.
4th ,,	Hungerford, Ramsbury, Bodmin and remain.

By an order of November 25th, two companies of the first division were halted at Newbury and joined the second division on its arrival there ; the remaining four companies were quartered at Hungerford.

Various changes of companies took place between this date and March, 1780.

On May 5th, 1780, the Regiment received orders to march into Devonshire and to be stationed at the following places : Tiverton, 5 companies ; Crediton, 3 ; Okehampton, 3 ; North Tawton, 1 ; This order was not carried out, as 1780. on arrival at Exeter the Regiment was directed to proceed to Brent, Ivey Bridge and adjacents, Ashburton, Buckfastleigh and adjacents, Chudleigh, Bovey Tracey and adjacents. The Regiment was to remain at these stations until the 95th Regiment embarked at Plymouth, when it was to proceed there.

On May 29th the Regiment received orders to proceed to Plymouth, and encamped in Plymouth Dock Lines. A review of the Regiment took place on August 5th. The arms, accoutrements and Colours were good. The drill and marching tolerably good, but the " Discipline of this Regiment seemed much relaxed and there appears to be want of subordination."

The *Western Flying Post* for August 21st reports from Plymouth :—

" Last Saturday (12th) a great riot happened at Dock Lines between the Somerset and Brecknock Militias. It originated by a quarrel between the two blacks of the Somerset band and some of the Brecknock. A large mob assembling, the confusion became general, and the dispute was carried to so great a height that bayonets were drawn and several were wounded. The officers then interposed and endeavoured to take some of the rioters, but that increased the outrage, and they attempted to force the barrier towards Stoke Church ; on which the picquet guard was ordered to fire, when they killed one and wounded ten, one of whom is since dead, and another has had his leg amputated. This together with the persuasions of the officers, soon put an end to the confusion, which might have been attended with serious consequences."

Another account states that the Brecknock Militia and the 97th Regiment were in conflict against the Hereford and Somerset Militias.

The Regiment remained at Plymouth till October. On the 16th of that month it received orders to march to the following places : five companies to Bristol, one to Axbridge, five to Bridgwater and one to Huntspill. Various changes took place between the companies between October, 1780, and February, 1781.

On March 13th the Regiment received orders to march to the following places : six companies to Taunton, two to Wellington and four to Bridgwater. The first division of the Somersets marched on March 20th, and the second division **1781.** on March 21st. The stay at these stations was brief, as the Regiment was among those ordered to Plymouth owing to the expectation of an enemy landing being attempted. Probably the Regiment marched by a district route, as the Militia Marching Book contains no reference to the march to Plymouth. The *Bath Chronicle* for April 5th, 1781, mentions the Somersets among other regiments "that have marched for Plymouth and its environs." At Plymouth the Regiment was one of many Militia Battalions which were encamped at Roborough and Maker, together with Regular troops, the whole being commanded by Lieut.-General Haviland ; the duties of the force, in addition to camp guards, etc., included the provision of guards over the prisoners of war at Mill Prison. As attempts at escape were frequent, this was a duty of considerable responsibility. The following extract from the *Exeter Flying Post* shows that a large number of prisoners were at Mill Prison :—

August 3rd, 1781.—"Prisoners at Mill Prison, 373 American, 408 French, 15 Dutch, 171 Spaniards."

By an Ordnance Warrant dated July 11th, a "compleat sett of Accoutrements for 48 Sergeants, 28 Drummers, and 852 Rank and File" was issued to the Regiment. An inspection of the 1st Somerset took place at Maker Camp on August 20th. The report was a favourable one, and states : "This Regiment has greatly improved since last Campaign, Lord Cork, under whose command it has been, having taken great pains to establish all parts of discipline, particularly subordination and regularity of behaviour."

The Camp broke up in October, and on the 23rd orders were issued for the Regiment to march from Maker in three divisions to the following places : First division of four companies to Warminster and adjacents, Frome and adjacents. The remaining eight companies were to proceed to Wells, Shepton Mallet, Glastonbury and adjacents. On the arrival of the second and third divisions at Exeter, however, they were ordered to join the first division at Warminster (Militia Marching Book 5/98).

The Regiment remained at Warminster until February, 1782. On the 21st of that month it started on its march to Winchester, the route being through Salisbury and Stockbridge. On April 23rd orders were issued for the **1782.** Regiment to proceed as follows : Six companies to Wells and adjacents, two to Frome, two to Bruton, Castle Carey and Ansford, two to Somerford. The next move was to Plymouth, in pursuance of orders issued on June 24th (the Militia Marching Book, 5/99), the Regiment starting on July 2nd for Maker Camp. A warrant for 198 tents had been issued on March 20th.

Four brigades were stationed in the neighbourhood of Plymouth under the command of Lieut.-General Haviland, three being at Roborough and one at Maker. Lord Cork of the Somersets and Major Wanchope of the 50th Regiment were placed in command of a Battalion formed from the Light Companies of those Regiments encamped at Roborough. This Battalion was moved to Staddon in August.

The camp broke up in November, the Regiment starting on November 19th for the following places: Four companies to Wells and Shepton Mallet, one to Glastonbury, three to Frome, three to Somerton and Langport, one to Bruton, Castle Carey and Ansford. Various changes took place among the companies between this date and February, 1783.

On February 27th orders were issued for the following changes of stations: Five companies to Taunton, four to Bridgwater, one to Glastonbury, two to Somerton and Langport.

1783. The warrant for the disembodiment of the Militia is dated February 28th, 1783. The following is an extract:—

“ . . . Whereas Preliminary Articles of Peace have been signed, whereof the Ratifications are exchanged, and in consequence of the said Preliminary Articles a Cessation of Arms has been proclaimed. We being most desirous to take the first opportunity of relieving our faithful subjects from the heavy Burthens and Expenses occasioned by the War, Our Will and Pleasure is, and We do hereby order you, with all convenient speed, to cause the Militia of our said County of Somerset to be disembodied. . . .”

“ TO OUR RIGHT TRUSTY, ETC. . . . LORD NORTH,
OUR LIEUTENANT OF OUR COUNTY OF SOMERSET.”

On March 4th instructions were sent to the Commanding Officer at Taunton, ordering him “ to march to such Place or Places, within the County, as you shall judge most convenient to carry into Execution His Majesty’s orders for their being disembodied ” (Militia Marching Book, 5/100). The Regiment was disembodied at Taunton ten days later.

The Regiment assembled for its annual training on May 22nd at Wells, there having been no training since its disembodiment in 1783. New Colours
1787. were provided during this training. The *Western Flying Post* of June 18th, 1787, gives the following details:—

“ Monday last the Somersetshire Militia were reviewed at Wells, and a solemn consecration of the new banners of the Regiment was held; on which occasion the Corps walked in procession to the Cathedral, where an excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Bowen, after which the old banners were deposited in the church. The Regiment then went through the various military manœuvres in the green before the Cathedral, in a manner deserving the highest encomiums, and much to the honour of their Commander-in-Chief, which gave us the most flattering prospect of its becoming (under the conduct of the Earl of Cork) one of the best disciplined Regiments of the Militia. A very handsome entertainment was given at the Swan Inn, and the afternoon was spent with the utmost sociability and harmony. In the evening was a splendid ball at the assembly room.”

A letter from the Office of Ordnance of May 15th gives the following annual allowance of ammunition granted per man: Sixteen rounds of powder and ball and forty-four rounds of powder only for each man, with a proper quantity of paper, thread and flints or such part thereof as with the ammunition each regiment,



1787.

battalion or independent company may from former deliveries have in store will amount to the same allowance.

Lord North, on June 6th, directs that all vacant commissions in the Regiment, especially during the peace, shall be filled with gentlemen of the county only, as it is his intention to confine it to them.

The Regiment trained at Wells during 1788-1792. The strength of the Regiment at this time was about 600 men, divided into twelve companies averaging forty-eight men each.

In December, 1792, Earl Poulett received a War Office Letter requesting him to have the arms of the Somerset Militia placed in such a place as 1792. shall be deemed most secure, and to ensure the constant residence of at least one-third of the sergeants, corporals and drummers in the place where the arms are kept.

CHAPTER V

1793—1802

1793 : Embodied, January 29th—To Plymouth and Cornwall in February—Employed against the tinnors and smugglers—To Salisbury in October. 1794 : To Dover Castle in April. 1795 : To Canterbury in March.—Food Riots. 1796 : Serious fire, May. 1797 : To Colchester and Yarmouth, May—Militia formed into Brigades—To Plymouth in September, but altered to Launceston, Bodmin, etc. 1798 : Instructors sent to the Supplementary Militia—Smuggling encounter—Smallpox rife—1799 : To Exeter in October. To Poole and Weymouth—To Fareham and Portsmouth. 1800 : To Weymouth in July. 1801 : To Gosport in May.—To Taunton in November. 1802 : Disembodied, April 24th.

ON January 8th a notification was received from the War Office that the King had ordered the Somerset Militia to be embodied, and asking to be informed of the place and date of assembly and strength of the said Militia. On the same date the following instructions were circulated regarding the precedence of Militia regiments :—

“ It is His Majesty’s order that when any Regiments, Battalions or Detachments of His embodied Militia meet, they shall draw lots for taking post, while they remain on duty together only, without prejudice to any of their pretensions whatever. This Order, however, is not to interfere with the precedence which may have been Established by Agreement or otherwise between Corps of Militia belonging to the same County.”

The Regiment assembled at Wells on January 29th, Lord Cork being in command. Messrs. Greenwood and Cox were appointed Agents ; Sergeant Gilley, from Coldstream Guards, appointed Drill-Sergeant ; Mr. John Vassall, late 65th Regiment, appointed Lieutenant and Acting Adjutant ; Mr. Cloney appointed Surgeon ; Lieutenant Sanford appointed Quartermaster.

Subsistence rates per week : Sergeant, 6s. ; Corporal, 4s. ; Private, 3s.

The following are extracts from Regimental Orders :—

“ N.C.Os. not to drink or associate with the privates.”

“ No Private to have his hair cut but by the Regimental hairdresser.”

“ By order of His Majesty—False Collars to be laid aside.”

“ No substitute to be taken under 5 ft. 6½ in.”

“ Each Officer permitted a Servant from the centre Rank. 2 to Field Officers and Captains.”

The Duke of York issued an order on February 1st “ That all Colonels of Regiments may order what Sword they think proper and His Royal Highness is of opinion that neither the Commander in Chief or any person *whatever* will interfere in it.”

On February 8th Private Peter West, when in the Crown Public-house, Wells, made use of traitorous language against His Majesty. He was put in irons and brought before a court-martial. The *Exeter Flying Post* of February 20th gives the following details :—

" Friday last one of the Militiamen for the county of Somerset, quartered at Wells, received 400 lashes by a sentence of Court Martial for uttering treasonable expressions against His Majesty. The sentence was severely inflicted by four drummers, who alternatively gave him 25 lashes till the above number was executed ; he fainted away twice during the punishment. He is to receive 400 more and be drummed out of the Regiment."

On February 11th a detachment of the Regiment, consisting of 1 officer, 2 sergeants, 2 corporals and 30 privates, was ordered to march to Plymouth to practise the exercise of the battalion guns. The detachment marched on February 14th by Bridgwater, Taunton, Exeter and Ashburton to Plymouth, arriving there on February 26th. They halted for the day on February 17th, 21st and 24th.

On February 16th the Regiment received orders to march in three divisions on February 21st, 22nd and 23rd into Cornwall. Regimental Order : " Officers who walk, to keep in front, those who ride in the rear."

The distribution of the twelve companies was as follows : Three at Truro, Kenwyn and Kenwyn Street ; four at Falmouth, Penryn and Flushing ; one at Helstone ; one at Marazion ; one at Penzance ; and two at Bodmin.

Extracts from Regimental Orders :—

" The men to avoid the Sailors, the Music and Fifers especially. A school will be established in Barracks. The Colonel will give the Books, the papers and pens to be charged to the Companies. Sergeants and Corporals who cannot read and spell well to attend the school constantly."

The Regiment provided guards over the prisoners of war at Falmouth, and assisted the civil authorities during the riots caused by the tinnerns at Bodmin, Launceston and other places.

May 18th :—

" At a Meeting of the Mayor and Corporation, Merchants and principal inhabitants of Falmouth held at the Guildhall Resolved that the thanks of this Meeting be given to John Smith Esq. Commanding the First Somerset Militia, and to the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates for their readiness and alacrity in defence of this Town and neighbourhood in the late insurrection of the Tinnerns.

" That a subscription be opened for making a Present to the Privates, and that these Resolutions be signed by the Town Clerk and presented to the Commanding Officer."

The Custom authorities also obtained the help of the Regiment in suppressing smuggling.

Colonel Darch informs Lord Cork that he has sent Sergeant Humphries into Somerset to attend the swearings-in there, as owing to the sergeant having given information by which a consignment of smuggled goods was seized, he has become so obnoxious to the miners and townsmen that his life is considered in danger.

Surgeons at this time were allowed five shillings for every man whom they inoculated against smallpox.

On June 4th the Regiment fired three rounds in honour of His Majesty's birthday. The Regimental Orders state : " The men to appear as clean as possible and to have *clean shirts* on."

Besides guarding prisoners of war, the Regiment also provided escorts for prisoners between Falmouth and Plymouth.

In July eight guineas was paid at Ilminster for a substitute.

The Regiment moved into camp at Maker Heights in July and remained there till October 13th.

The following are extracts from Regimental Orders while the Regiment was at Maker Heights :—

“ Officers on duty to be dressed in uniform, off duty Jackets and Round Hats with Feather may be worn.”

“ The Light Company to wear the hair clubbed.”

“ No man under 5 ft. 7 in. or above 5 ft. 8½ in. to be taken into the Light Company.”

“ Officers to wear cloth waistcoats, Breeches and Leggings.”

The following General Order was issued on August 22nd :—

“ As Regiments have adopted different modes of dressing the men's Hair behind, it is His Majesty's pleasure that both officers and men in Genl when under Arms or on duty (Fusilier Corps and the Grenadiers and Light Infantry Coys. when they wear their Caps excepted) shall for the future, wear their Hair Clubbed.

“ The Non-Commissioned Officers and Men to have a small piece of Black polished Leather by way of ornament upon the Club.”

On October 14th the Regiment began its march to Salisbury, arriving there on November 6th.

An anonymous letter sent to the War Office was forwarded to Lord Cork on November 25th. The writer of the letter complained of Lord Cork's conduct in not issuing the new clothing to the men, and states that the clothes they now wear are not worth two pence, and cause a scandal in Salisbury. Lord Cork has the letter read out on parade, and then addresses the men, denying all the accusations contained in the letter, and reminding them that he provided winter under-clothing for them at his own expense and also himself paid for all repairs, a policy he does not intend to continue. He concludes by offering a reward of twenty guineas for the discovery of the writer of the letter.

The following are selected from the Regimental Orders while the Regiment was at Salisbury :—

“ Furloughs will be granted, but not to any one who has not had the small-pox.”

“ Officers' servants dirtily dressed in the streets or at the Mess Table, to be sent to the Black-hole for 48 hours.”

“ Sergeants always to appear in Buff leather Gloves when under arms,”

“ Men to mount guard with their Mitts on.”

“ Men's hats to be worn uniformly, the furthest loop on the right side to be over the middle of the right eye-brow.”

“ In rainy weather a Drum and Fife to beat the 'Glorious 1st of August' for no parade.”

“ The Colonel commends the men to have leather instead of cloth breeches.”

"The Colonel acquaints the Regiment with great pleasure that he has received a letter from the Secty. at State assuring him that a provision is to be made for the Wives and Children of the men similar to the allowance last War."

"The Colonel observing that the men's Hair is very much neglected, orders that 'Formers' be provided for every Coy. so that all the Clubs be of a depth of $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches."

"Men not to spit about the Cathedral during divine service."

"Officers to march either in Jackets or Long Coats."

On December 10th the War Office asks for information regarding a deserter from the Dorset Regiment for whom the Somerset Militia had to provide an escort. The following reply was sent :—

"SALISBURY,
11th Dec., 1793.

"SIR,

"I am to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant respecting the escort of Briant Eastment, a Deserter from the Dorset Militia, who was escorted by a party of the Somerset to Rumsay, and there delivered to John Sturdy, Deputy Sergeant Major of the Berkshire Militia on the 14th ultimo, from whom we have a receipt for his body with 17 shillings remaining subsistence and 1 pair of hand cuffs complete.

"I am, etc.,
(Signed) "CORK."

The Regiment remained at Salisbury till April 9th, 1794, when it moved to Dover Castle. On May 9th Lord Cork writes to the Misses More of Bath to present the united thanks of the whole Regiment for the gift of 879 pairs of shoes 1794. for the men, presented by these ladies. Miss More, when sending the shoes, concludes her letter as follows :—

"I beg leave to wish you, the Officers and Men, every success if you should be called into action, and that the God of Armies may go forth with you."

The Regiment took over the battalion guns which had been left by the South Devons. The guns were manned by a corporal and four gunners, Royal Artillery, with 31 men of the Somersets.

In July the unserviceable arms in possession of the Regiment were handed over to the Cinque Port Volunteers.

A Garrison Order of September 15th states that 20 rounds of ball ammunition per man will be issued for practice purposes during the season, but that the 36 rounds set apart for service are to be carefully kept in perfect good order for business.

Extracts from Regimental Orders while the Regiment was at Dover Castle :—

"Officers to wear Shoes and Half Gaiters at Evening Parade."

"No Officer to be acknowledged either in the field or on parade who is not perfectly dressed."

"Each Company to furnish 3 men as Gunners, a Lieutenant to take charge of the Field Pieces and Guns."

"Two men confined in the Black-hole in *Straight Waistcoats* for 48 hours on bread and water for drunkenness."

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"The Drum Major to find out the Men that have been used to Church singing and return their names to the Adjutant, that there may be always Psalm singing at Divine Service."

"The Men having agreed to purchase Clubs, the Colonel dispenses with the hair being powdered, except on Sundays, Guards and Field Days."

"A tent will be pitched for the School, the Colonel will pay for the Privates and Children."

The Regiment was reviewed by General Lord Amhurst before its departure for Canterbury.

On March 9th, 1795, the Regiment received orders to march to Canterbury on being relieved by the Lancashire Militia. The Regiment was quartered in the barracks and town. During this month conflicts took place between the troops and the provision dealers in the market, owing to the high prices of bread and meat, and strong picquets and guards had to be provided to maintain order.

On April 6th the use of powder in the men's hair is forbidden except for guards or when particular orders are issued.

Officers not to wear Round Hats or Jackets on parade.

On April 7th a Garrison Order directs Commanding Officers to contract with butchers and bakers for the supply of meat and bread for the men; the good effect from so doing will be procuring provisions at a cheaper rate than the market price.

"Meat not to be charged more than 4½d. per lb. to the Soldiers, and Bread at 6 lbs. for 5d."

Orders were also issued this month for the division of the men into regular messes of from six to twelve men. The Regiment was formed three deep on all parades.

On May 18th the Regiment moved into camp on Barham Down, being brigaded with the South Devons, South Hants and West Yorks.

On June 2nd instructions were issued for the Brigade to hut in two rows, with an interval of two yards between each hut.

A Regimental Order of June 8th directs that the men's messes are to be regularly visited at the dinner hour by a subaltern officer to ascertain that the provisions have been properly supplied or otherwise.

June 10th. Owing to frequent complaints that the soldiers often have their provisions stolen by loose dogs, the General requests that officers will not permit their dogs, when from under their own eye, to go about the camp.

On June 11th a General Court-Martial assembled at the Red Lion Inn, Canterbury, for the trial of Major Manley, charged with absence of leave on three occasions. The Court acquitted him of the first charge, but found him guilty of the remaining charges and sentenced him to be privately reprimanded by the President. His Majesty considered this sentence too lenient.

On August 8th a proportion of the men (nine per company) were allowed to assist in getting in the harvest. The men selected were granted a month's furlough and allowed to take up employment anywhere within thirty miles of camp.

Selection from Orders while at Barham Down Camp :—

"Volunteers for the Royal Navy to give in their names."

"Black leather Knee-tops given out."

"In consideration of the very great scarcity of flour, the men are not to use any for the hair unless ordered."

"Recruiting Party sent to Frome to replace men gone to the Artillery."

"That the cloth Breeches may be preserved, the men are constantly to wear leather."

On October 18th the camp broke up and the Regiment marched to Canterbury. A proportion of men were allowed to assist in threshing corn this month.

In January, 1796, the General calls attention to disputes that have arisen at the Play House between the officers of the Garrison and the people of Canterbury, and hopes that the officers will oblige him by avoiding the place for the 1796. present. The trouble was caused by the officers insisting that some members of the audience should remove their hats. The Duke of Richmond remarks that, however laudable their zeal for His Majesty, they undoubtedly appear to have exceeded any authority they could claim in obliging other people to pull off their hats at a Play House, and that such proceedings must be abstained from in future.

February 17th, Garrison Order: "The Drums are not to beat, nor the Music play in the Churchyard at Guard Mounting and the morning Parades on Wednesdays and Friday during Lent."

March 5th, Garrison Order: "There being only room for one Regiment at a time in the Cathedral for Divine Service, the Derby and Somerset Regiments will take it by turns. The N.C.Os. are to pay particular attention that the Soldiers remain during the service in the Quoir, and do not disturb the congregation by walking or otherwise in the Isles."

Selection from Orders while the Regiment was at Canterbury:—

"Officers not to wear Round Hats except Light Company."

"Bands to wear the Hair Clubbed except when full dressed—then Qued."

"The Hair of Band and Drummers to be cut to the Regimental form."

"The Soldiers to have 1 lb. instead of 1½ lbs. of Bread, the difference to be laid out in vegetables."

"Grenadier Officers to wear Wings in addition to epaulets."

"The Soldiers' Old Coats to be turned into Jackets."

"Mr. Gibbs indulged with having the South Hants and Somerset Regiments reviewed in his Park at Harble Down."

"All the pence stopped from the men for Bread to be returned to them, and 5d. every 4 days to be laid out in vegetables for each man."

"Carrying the Colours being a post of Honor, the two Senior Ensigns have that right and duty."

"No women but wives and children to go with the Baggage."

"Upon 3 cannon shot being fired, the Picquets are to form, and the Army to get under arms as quickly as possible."

On April 25th orders were received that the Regiment would proceed to Colchester in three divisions on May 2nd, 3rd and 4th. On April 29th a detachment of seventy men from the Regiment assisted in extinguishing a fire in the town. The Mayor sent a letter of thanks for the assistance given, by which a great part of the city was preserved, and enclosed a gratuity of ten guineas for the troops employed and a further sum of fifteen guineas from the fire office in London.

On May 2nd the first division of the Regiment began its march to Colchester. The route lay through Faversham, Rochester, Gravesend and Chelmsford, arriving at Colchester on May 10th.

On May 22nd, in view of the Colchester elections, the Regiment was quartered for three days in Baintree Dunmow, Thaxted and Halstead.

The price of beef and mutton supplied by the carcase to the troops during July was 6½d. a pound. A proportion limited to one-third of the Regiment were allowed to assist the farmers this month in harvesting.

New battalion guns and wagons were issued in August.

Selection from orders while the Regiment was at Colchester :—

“ Barrack room windows to be opened at 6 a.m.”

“ Tailors to work from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.”

“ Ensign Allport superseded for absenting himself from the Regiment without leave.”

“ No Officer to order a man to the Black-hole without leave of the Commanding Officer.”

“ Field day. Brushes to be taken to the field by the Corporals.”

“ Field day. Officers to wear Leggings, Plain Hatts with crimson and gold tassels. Yellow hilted Swords and Gold Sword Knots.”

“ Men's Hats to be well cleaned and cocked for the Review, and men whose pieces do not go off to be sent to Drill for one Month.”

“ The Colonel being called upon to give up one of his Barrack rooms, he intends to make use of the Mess Room.”

“ The Colonel, ever anxious to encourage the Soldier, will give Medals twice a year, viz. on the King's and Queen's birthdays. The Major, Senior Captain, Paymaster, Adjutant, Senior Lieutenant and Senior Ensign to be a court before which every soldier must lay his claim before he can receive a medal.”

The Regiment received orders on September 25th to be ready to march to Yarmouth at the shortest notice, and on October 17th it commenced its march in four divisions to Norwich (the two battalion guns being with the first division), remaining at Norwich till the elections were over. The Regiment marched to Yarmouth on the 31st. There were detachments at Lowestoft, Happisburgh, Monsley and Winterton, which were relieved every twenty-eight days.

In November the Duke of York published an order that the Flank Companies of the Regiment were to be in readiness to move at short notice, as it was intended to form two battalions of Grenadiers and Light Infantry from the regiments in the district. Also that companies were to be equalized so as to contain the usual number of commissioned and non-commissioned officers and 74 rank and file.

Selection from Orders while the Regiment was at Yarmouth :—

“ The band at all times to wear long gaiters.”

“ No one to go on board ship without a pass.”

“ As the men are to have blue pantaloons, the Officers may wear them.”

“ Collins appointed Corporal vice Dovey, who wishes to resign his Knot.”

“ The men to be practised at the Great Guns.”

“ When the men attend at the Cellars to receive their beer, a Sergeant is to taste the beer, and if found of bad quality, the Cask is to be marked and reported to the Commanding Officer.”

" Maj.-Gen. Crosbie is sorry to hear of the very inferior bread delivered to the Soldiers and has forwarded a loaf for the inspection of H.R.H. the Duke of York."

" As the Colonel is leaving the Regiment all prisoners are to be released."

" In consequence of a ' Bruising Match,' between one of the Durham and one of the Somerset, the Lieutenant-Colonel is determined to punish any man who shall be found to challenge to fight in future."

On December 6th Earl Poulett asks for the number of officers and non-commissioned officers who can be spared for training the Supplementary Militia, numbering 2,960, only a sixth part of whom will be called up at a time for twenty-one days' training.

On February 24th a detachment of the Regiment, comprising 1 captain, 2 subalterns, 6 sergeants, 2 drummers and 15 rank and file, proceeded to Bath for the purpose of assisting in the training of the Supplementary Militia. 1797. The party arrived at Bath on March 11th, the route being through Beccles, Saxmundham, Ipswich, Colchester, Chelmsford, Rumford, Bow and Stratford, Hounslow, Maidenhead, Reading, Newbury, Marlborough, Devizes, Bath.

The following curious order appears on March 16th, Yarmouth :—

" The prisoners of war under the care of the Guard mounted in the Town will in future be aired at 10 o'clock under the immediate care of a party of that Guard."

On May 17th orders were received for the Regiment to proceed to Ipswich in four divisions, commencing its march on May 22nd.

A General Order of May 24th notified the increase in the private soldier's pay from 8½d. to 1s., 4s. per week to be appropriated towards mess expenses and 1s. 6d. per week retained for necessaries. The remaining 1s. 6d. to be paid to the soldier subject to the accustomed deduction for washing and articles for cleaning his clothes and appointments.

That in camp he shall receive the sum of 5½d. per week, being the difference between the allowance and value of bread and beer in quarters and barracks and the ordinary (increased) supply of bread in camp.

Pay and allowance to a drummer daily to be 13¾d.

" " " " Corporal " " 14¼d.

" " " " Sergeant " " 18¾d.

On May 29th the Militia of the Eastern District was formed into brigades; the Somersets, Oxford and Herts. formed the 3rd Brigade.

Rumours were rife at this time of disaffection existing in some regiments, and that unless the pay was increased they were going to lay down their arms. These reports were much resented, and many regiments, the 1st Somerset among others, forwarded loyal addresses to Headquarters. The following reply, dated Horse Guards, June 23rd, 1797, and signed by Colonel Brownrigg, was received :—

" I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday respecting the address from the Non-commissioned Officers and Privates of the 1st Som^t. Regt. of Militia, which I did not fail to lay before the Duke of York. His Royal Highness is highly sensible of the zeal and loyalty of the Regiment, and directs that his thanks be returned to them for their very handsome address, which he ordered to be printed and copies to be distributed to the several General Officers Commanding Districts, one of which I now enclose to you."

Extracts from Orders while the Regiment was at Ipswich :—

“ In future coats will be worn with the lappels buttoned back and hooked.”

“ The Officer of the Guard to pay the strictest attention that he may in case of Riot be ready to quell the same, or to receive any orders from the General or Commanding Officer.”

“ The General permits 20 men per Company to go to the races.”

“ Two men of the Regiment having behaved extremely ill to a woman in a field near Ipswich, the Lieutenant-Colonel hopes that in future no man will so far disgrace himself as to offer any insult to the sex. He will punish any Soldier who shall be culpable of such an act.”

“ Sergt. Lovekin appointed 1st Sergeant-Major.”

“ Sergt. Jn. Chorley appointed 2nd Sergeant-Major.”

On September 12th a route was received for the Regiment to march in three divisions to Plymouth on September 15th, 16th and 18th. The route was as follows :—Colchester, Witham, Chelmsford, Brentwood, Bow, Fulham, Staines, Reading, Newbury, Hungerford, Marlborough, Devizes, Trowbridge, Frome, Wells, Bridgwater, Taunton, Wellington, Tiverton, Crediton, Oakhampton, Tavistock, Plymouth. The first division was due to arrive at Plymouth on October 17th. The divisions halted for the day on Sundays and Thursdays in each week, with an additional halt on the first Monday of their respective marches.

A Garrison Court of Enquiry was held on September 17th on Lieutenant Smith, for threatening to shoot two French prisoners and for striking one with his sword when on escort duty from Ipswich to Yarmouth. The Duke of York, in reviewing the proceedings, expressed the opinion that Lieutenant Smith's conduct was highly improper and unwarrantable, and desired his opinion to be communicated to Lieutenant Smith accordingly.

General Lennox, G.O.C. Plymouth, on October 6th, asks to be informed of the strength of the Regiment in view of its being intended for duty in Cornwall. As the divisions arrived at Oakhampton they were accordingly diverted to the following places in the proportions given below :—

3 Companies at Launceston.

2 Companies at Bodmin.

1 Company at Maker Heights Barracks (1 captain, 2 subalterns, 2 sergeants, 3 corporals, 2 drummers and 78 privates).

2 Companies at East and West Looe and Polperro.

2 Companies at Liskeard.

1 Company at Lostwithial.

1 Company at St. Austell, Grampound and Tregony.

On October 13th the destination of the Lostwithial company was revoked and it proceeded to the villages of Cawsand, Kingsand, Millbrook.

The Regiment was very much split up, as assistance was given, on application by the Customs Authorities, in suppressing smuggling, and companies and detachments were moved to Fowey, Penzance, St. Ives, Marazion and other places. In suppressing smuggling directions are given that “ force is only to be met with force in cases of real necessity.”

The Regiment took over the custody of prisoners of war at Falmouth and Penryn, relieving the 2nd Queens and 29th Foot, in December.

A General Order issued this month directs that when several regiments are serving together their light companies are to be exercised together, so that, should occasion arise, they may be formed into distinct battalions. Constant references appear in the order books this year to powder in the hair being forbidden, but to judge from similar orders in later years, the practice still found favour with some Commanding Officers.

In January instructions were issued that the detachments at Fowey, Falmouth, **1798.** Penzance and other places where there were batteries, should be taught and practised in the exercise of the great guns.

In consequence of the raising of two battalions of Supplementary Militia, one at Taunton and one at Bath, the services of instructors were requisitioned from the 1st Somerset Militia. Two parties, each comprising 3 sergeants, 3 corporals and 6 well-drilled privates, were sent to each new battalion. These men were to act as non-commissioned officers in the Supplementary Militia, and were to be replaced by an equal number of able and efficient men from the Supplementary Militia. The detachments marched on March 5th. The Supplementary Militia was embodied on March 12th. The Western Battalion encamped on Maker Heights on June 4th and the Eastern Battalion on Charlestown Down on June 18th.

A letter dated March 17th, Horse Guards, states that, in consequence of the augmentation to be received by the old Regiment of Militia from the Supplementary, the Grenadier and Light Companies are to be at once brought up to 100 effective rank and file each, these flank companies to be formed into battalions of eight companies each. Much confusion was apparently caused by the augmentation of the old Militia units by the Supplementary Militia which took place this year by Royal Warrant. Lord Poulett directs that Lord Cork's Regiment be still called the 1st Somerset, the Supplementary Regiment under Colonel Strode the Eastern Regiment, and the Regiment under Colonel Tynte the Western Regiment.

The strength of the 1st Somerset after augmentation was 1,260, all ranks included.

The Cornish smugglers sometimes retaliated for the seizure of their cargoes, as the following report, taken from the Letter Book of March 17th, 1798, shows :

" The detachments at Marazion and Penzance have given much assistance to the Revenue Officers in suppressing smuggling. As Pte. Newentt Thomas was returning on Saturday evening to Penzance he was set upon by two men, who, having knocked him down and beaten him, threw him down a shaft, where he remained till mid-day Monday before he was rescued, having broken his leg and cut his head badly."

On May 7th a detachment was ordered to proceed to Taunton and Wells, " the Officers by carriage, the R. and F. by coach," so as to arrive there on May 15th, and receive 398 Supplementary Militiamen.

The Flank Companies joined the two battalions composed of Grenadiers and Light Infantry which were formed during May and moved into camp.

The Grenadier Battalion was commanded by Colonel Braddyl, of the Royal **Lancs.** Regiment, and was encamped on Maker Heights. The Light Infantry

Battalion was commanded by Major Fisher, of the 62nd Regiment, and was encamped at Charlestown Down.

There was considerable opposition on the part of Commanding Officers in being thus deprived of their flank companies.

In September all the officers, non-commissioned officers and drummers and 480 men volunteered for service in Ireland (ten battalion companies).

A malignant type of small-pox broke out this month, and steps were taken for inoculating all men not already so treated.

On October 5th the troops were ordered to fire three rounds at 12 o'clock in honour of the glorious victory of the British Fleet commanded by Sir Horatio Nelson over the French (Battle of the Nile, August 1st).

The Regiment proceeded in four divisions on October 6th, 8th and 9th, through Bodmin and Oakhampton to Exeter.

On October 24th Lord Cork died, and Earl Poulett, the Lord-Lieutenant, took command as Colonel.

On January 15th the hair powder question again appears. On March 15th the ten companies were billeted in the following places till the 23rd. The 1799. Order Book gives no details, but possibly the move was on account of Exeter elections.

- 1 Company to St. Thomas.
- 2 Companies to Chudleigh.
- 2 Companies to Honiton.
- 2 Companies to Tiverton.
- 2 Companies to Crediton.
- 1 Company to Ottery.

A Horse Guards letter of April 22nd orders all ranks to have their hair queued, with the exception of the flank companies.

A Regimental Order of May 28th directs that in future all men for duty are to have a clean foraging cap tied on the top of their pouches with yellow binding.

On June 29th, July 1st and 2nd, the Regiment, marching in three divisions, moved to Poole Barracks. The route lay through Honiton, Axminster, Bridport, Dorchester and Wareham to Poole.

In consequence of an Act for the reduction of the Militia, Militiamen up to one-quarter of men serving were allowed to volunteer into the Regular Army.

Volunteers were not liable for service out of Europe. They received a bounty of ten guineas. An Ensign's commission was offered for every sixty men who volunteered.

On August 3rd, in consequence of the reduction in regimental strength, 11 sergeants were discharged, being given fourteen days' pay to carry them home.

The Regiment gave 260 volunteers to the Regular Army and 4 officers took commissions. Some men volunteered to 40th and 46th Regiments.

The following curious order appears on August 3rd: "The men are to be immediately provided with false tails according to the pattern fixed on by the Colonel, which is to be seen in the Orderly Room."



**Cross-belt Plate, West Mendip
Local Regiment.**



**Cross-belt Plate, East Mendip
Local Militia.**



East Mendip Local Militia, 1812.

CROSS-BELT PLATES OF LOCAL MILITIA.

The flank companies rejoined in July, and on August 14th the Regiment, in two wings of six companies each, marched through Wareham to Weymouth and encamped on the 15th. The Regiment was moved to Weymouth for duty during the King's residence there.

On August 18th Regimental Orders state that "Music and Drummers are to wear their Hair powdered, and that Officers on duty are to wear Gorgets (mounted officers excepted), sashes at all times."

"Officers to wear white leather or cloth breeches or pantaloons, but when on King's Guard or General Field Days, to wear white cloth Breeches and long boots. Coat lappels to be buttoned over."

"Officers to wear uniform Feathers, and their Great Coats to be plain Blue with small yellow buttons and cut straight down."

On October 2nd the Regiment was reviewed by the King on Monckton Down.

The Regiment on October 14th began its march in three divisions to Fareham. The divisions marched by different routes:—(1) Dorchester, Blandford, Salisbury, Rumford, Fareham; arrive October 18th. (2) Wareham, Wimborne, Ringwood, Southampton, Fareham; arrive October 18th. (3) Weymouth Town, Wimborne, Ringwood, Southampton, Fareham; arrive October 19th.

The Regiment did not remain long at Fareham, proceeding to Portsmouth on the 23rd. Regimental Order, October 24th: "Officers to wear Boots on all parades and duties, leggins totally abolished."

On October 24th an order directs that "in future Sashes will only be worn by Officers when on duty."

November 5th being the anniversary of the Gunpowder Plot, the Royal Standard was hoisted and 21 guns fired.

On November 29th the oft-repeated order that hair powder is to be discontinued once more appears.

In this month the establishment of the Regiment was reduced to 600 men in ten companies.

In January an order appears that "no powder or any other thing 1800. resembling powder is to be worn in the Hair."

General Order, February 8th: "Major-Gen. St. John having visited the greater part of the Barracks in the Garrison, finds them in very indifferent order, those occupied by the Somerset Regiment excepted. The men were supplied with worsted gloves this month, costing 7½d. a pair."

During the Weymouth election in March the Regiment moved to Wareham, Poole and Dorchester.

Regimental Order, April 28th:—"The Commanding Officer desires the Quarter Master to see that the Barracks are regulated immediately, and to see that every bed is occupied by two men, and that no more than two men are allowed to sleep in each bed."

A proportion of men were allowed to assist farmers this month, limited to ten per company.

Regimental Order, July 8th: "Those men who are not provided with proper packs, are to be immediately provided with them, and are to be painted yellow with the letter 'S' in the centre."

Garrison Order, July 8th : " The inhabitants generally, but particularly the female part, being much molested by the Soldiers bathing so near the machines provided for their accommodation. No Soldier in future will be permitted to Bathe on the Town side of the Sea mark to the left of the bathing machines."

On July 18th the Regiment marched in two divisions to Weymouth, arriving on the 24th and 25th, where they encamped. Extreme heat—" No man to expose himself without Hat or Forage Cap." On September 9th the King inspected the Regiment.

On October 11th the camp broke up and the Regiment was quartered in Weymouth Barracks.

Extracts from Regimental Orders, Weymouth Barracks :—

" Articles of War read and credit cried down."

" Officers going hunting, shooting, etc., allowed to wear coloured clothes, but immediately on their return, to put on their uniform."

" The half-mounting for 1800 to be delivered to the men."

Horse Guards, December 15th : " It is H.R.H. the Commander in Chief's pleasure, that on receipt thereof, you are to cause the Union and County Colours of the Regiment under your Command to be forwarded (without the staves) to the Office of Ordnance in the Tower of London, for the purpose of being altered to the New Pattern which by order of His Majesty will be adopted on the approaching Union of Gt. Britain and Ireland."

December 24th, General Order, Winchester : " On displaying the New Colours upon the Union between Gt. Britain and Ireland, taking place on the first of January ensuing, a Royal Salute will be fired from all the Forts and Parks of Artillery and a *feu-de-joy* by the several Regiments and Corps in the South Western District in Celebration of this event."

The penny a day beer money came into force on March 25th.

1801. On April 26th the usual order forbidding hair powder again appears.

Regimental Order, May 9th :—" It having been reported to Colonel Earl Poulett the shameful and scandalous behaviour of some of the men's wives of the Regiment at the late Riots, particularly the wives of ——. It is his positive order that they never be allowed to ride on the Baggage Waggons on a march, nor be accommodated in any Barrack the Regiment may be quartered in."

On May 12th, 13th and 15th the Regiment, marching in three divisions, proceeded to Gosport, passing through Dorchester, Blandford, Ringwood and Southampton.

In August the Militiamen liable for service, who had been disembodied, were re-embodied, and a detachment from the Regiment proceeded on the 16th to Taunton and Wells to escort 190 men from each place, so as to bring the existing companies up to 80 men each.

On November 13th, 14th and 16th the Regiment marched in three divisions into Somerset. Six companies were stationed at Taunton, three at Somerton, Langport and Curry Rivel, one at Wellington. The route was through Wickham, Romsey, Salisbury, Shaftsbury, Wincanton, Somerton, Taunton.

Regimental Order, November 22nd :—" Any men seen in the streets with round hats, or otherwise improperly dressed, will be confined and tried for disobedience of orders."

Regimental Order, January 14th :—" The Commanding Officer being very much surprised to find that the men at Taunton have not been supplied
1802. with meat since their arrival here, directs that in future every man be supplied with $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. of meat per day agreeably to His Majesty's Regulations."

On April 12th Earl Poulett received the Royal Warrant signifying that the Somerset Militia should be disembodied with all convenient speed. The disembodiment took place at Bridgwater on April 24th.

Lord Poulett issued a farewell order on the 22nd, thanking all ranks for their services, etc.

The Regiment had been embodied since January, 1793, continuously.

CHAPTER VI

1803—1816

1803 : Embodied March 28th—To Exeter and Woodbury Camp in August—To Honiton, Axminster, etc., in November. 1804 : Winchester, Weymouth and Portsmouth. 1805 : Smallpox breaks out—Volunteering into the line—To Weymouth and Lewes. 1806 : Winchester and Rye. 1807 : Volunteered for service in Ireland—Eastbourne and Portsea. 1808 : Local Militia formed, seven regiments for Somerset—To Bristol in March. 1809 : Serious dispute between senior officers—Court of Enquiry and General Courts-Martial—Four officers dismissed the service—Berry Head Barracks in July. 1810 : Duty over war prisoners at Dartmoor. 1811 : Similar duties. 1812 : Regimental School established. 1813 : Maker Barracks, Cornwall, Plymouth—To Ireland in December. 1814 : Kilkenny ; embarked for England in September—Orders issued for disembodiment, but cancelled—To Taunton, and then to Dartmoor. 1815 : Plymouth and Dartmoor—Serious riot at Dartmoor. 1816 : Plymouth—Disembodied at Taunton, January 31st.

THE period of disembodiment was not a lengthy one, as on March 11th the Royal Warrant embodying the Militia was sent to Lord Poulett, and the Regiment assembled at Bridgwater on March 28th. The establishment consisted of 1803. 810 men in ten companies.

The Regiment moved to Taunton on April 25th. A return of men who had not had small-pox was called for this month.

The Supplementary Militia was embodied in June, and the Augmentation received by the 1st Somerset from the Supplementary Militia brought the strength of the Regiment up to 1,200 men in twelve companies.

Regimental Order, July 2nd :—" Officers on all Parades and under Arms to wear their Hatts."

On August 18th the Regiment proceeded to Exeter, where it remained till August 22nd, on which date it marched to Woodbury Camp.

On October 12th three parties, each consisting of a sergeant and three privates, were detailed to take charge of the fire beacons on Dumpton Hill, near Honiton, Castle Neroche and Borough Chapel. The fire beacon on Dumpton was in the most direct line looking towards those on Castle Neroche and Woodbury Common. The parties were encamped, and were provided with smoke balls and straw, some of the straw being always kept wet for smoke signalling by day.

On October 31st Major-General Grosvenor directs that the men selected as sharp-shooters in the 1st and 2nd Somerset Regiments shall have a trial of skill together in ball firing on Wednesday morning ; they will fire four rounds each at 200 yards and two rounds at 300 yards. The Major-General gives a prize of a guinea to the best marksman at each distance, and orders that they be distinguished by red feathers in their caps, which feathers will be challenged for upon the next appointed day for trying the skill of the sharp-shooters.

On November 18th the camp broke up and the Regiment was distributed amongst the following places :—

Honiton	...	...	...	200 men.
Axminster and Kilmington	...	...	...	150 „
Sidmouth, Beer, Seaton and Colyford	...	...	...	120 „
Exeter	...	...	...	The Grenadier and Light Companies and remainder of Regiment.

In December Headquarters were still at Exeter with detachments at Tiverton, Cullompton and Crediton.

A "Levy en Masse" was authorized this year. Male inhabitants between 17 and 55 years of age were divided into four classes.

- (1) Those of 17 to 30, unmarried, having no child living under 10 years of age.
- (2) Those of 35 to 50, having no children.
- (3) Those of 17 to 30 who were or had been married and had more than two children living under age aforesaid.
- (4) All not included as above.

The marking of soldiers' necessaries came into use this year in order to put a stop to the practice of soldiers selling or pawning their necessaries. The period of training was this year increased from twenty-one to twenty-eight days.

Extracts from Regimental Orders, 1803.

"Officers on duty to wear White Waistcoats, breeches and Regimental boots, also Sashes and Gorgets."

"Officers to provide themselves with baggage horses and tents."

"Major Prowse to be 2nd Lieut.-Colonel."

"Captain Newman to be 2nd Major."

"Lieutenant Bernell to be Quarter Master."

"Regiment augmented to 12 companies."

In March the Regimental Headquarters were at Tiverton, and the Regiment was divided between Tiverton, Crediton, Ottery and Honiton. A Regimental

Order of April 16th again forbids the wearing of round hats. On June 21st 1804. and 22nd the Regiment marched in two divisions to Winchester. The route lay through Honiton, Chard, Crewkerne, Sherbourne, Shaftesbury, Stockbridge to Winchester.

On July 3rd, 4th and 5th the Regiment moved in four divisions to Porchester Castle and Gosport, six companies to each place.

Regimental Order of July 29th states that all officers requiring breastplates or other Regimental appointments are to give in their names to the Paymaster.

The Regiment started on August 20th for Weymouth and encamped there on the 26th, where it remained till the camp broke up on October 29th, proceeding on that date in three divisions to Portsmouth.

The following extracts are taken from the General Orderly Book of Major-General the Hon. Chas. Fitzroy, who commanded the Infantry Brigade at Weymouth. The Brigade consisted of the Stafford Militia, 1st Somerset Militia and 2nd Somerset Militia.

August 25th, 1804 :—

“ By His Majesty’s Command all officers will appear at the Public Rooms as follows :

“ Infantry in shoes and stockings, without Sashes. Field Officers on duty will appear in boots.”

August 26th :—

“ Gloucester Lodge is in future to be called the King’s Lodge.

“ The 1st Somerset Militia will encamp to-morrow morning at 8 o’clock. The troops to form three deep along the line of parade previously marked out. Pile their arms and go to the rear to unpack their Tents when they place themselves in their respective places with their Tents on the ground before them, when the whole are ready, at the first Flam of the Drum they seize their tents, at the second raise them, and at the third they spread them out and fasten them to the ground. The Quarter Masters to take care to have the exact spot for each Tent pole marked out.”

August 28th :—

“ The Guards and Picquets after being inspected by their Adjutants and formed three deep on their Regimental Parades will be marched to their respective General Parade of Brigade and delivered over to the Brigade Major (or in his absence the Adjutant of the day), who after inspecting them will march them with the King’s Colours cased in the centre of the King’s Guard to the General Parade and deliver them to the Field Officer of the day with Open Ranks, Bayonets unfixed and arms shouldered. The Field Officer will then post the officers and order their inspection, after which will order arms, fix bayonets and shoulder. The report will then be received by the Brigade Major or Adjutant of the day and made to the Field Officer, after which the Order for the Drummers’ call will be given by the Field Officer for the Ensign to receive and uncased the King’s Colour, on which the whole will present arms, during the time the colours are marched to the Guard. Arms will then be shouldered, ranks closed and marched past by subdivisions.”

On September 8th the King reviewed the Army on Bincomb Down.

September 14th :—“ In case of Alarm, signals will be made from the Nothe Battery, by day one gun and repeated—by night three guns at two minutes between each gun.”

On September 14th the King reviewed the 1st Somerset.

The following were the contract prices of bread from August 25th to September 25th :—

Hants	...	...	...	...	Sixpence.
Wilts	...	...	...	...	Sevenpence halfpenny.
Dorset	...	...	...	...	Sevenpence.
Isle of Wight	...	...	...	...	Sixpence three-farthings.

By order of September 28th, the Grenadier and Light Companies of the Stafford and 1st Somerset, with the King’s Colour of the Stafford, were detailed as King’s Guard.

The contract prices of bread from September 25th to October 24th were as follows :—

Hants	...	...	...	...	Sevenpence farthing.
Wilts	...	...	...	...	Eightpence.
Dorset	...	...	...	...	Sevenpence halfpenny.

On October 28th His Majesty, through Major-General Garth, expressed to Lord Poulett, the officers, non-commissioned officers and privates of the 1st Somerset Militia His most gracious approbation of the good conduct, excellent discipline and strict attention to duty shown by the Regiment during the encampment at Weymouth.

Regimental Order, Gosport, November 8th :—" The Regiment will parade to-morrow morning in heavy marching order. Mounted Officers to appear in Cross-Belts instead of Waist-Belts."

Regimental Order, January 15th :—" The Small pox having made its appearance in the Regiment, the C.O. directs the Pay Sergeants to parade every man who has not the appearance of the above disorder on his Face, in the street 1805. of the Barrack yard, to-morrow at 3 o'clock for inspection by the Surgeon."

January 29th :—" The Sergeant of the day at Gosport Barracks will visit the Hospital and see that the convalescent patients' hands and faces are properly cleaned, hair tied, and shaved, which he will report to the Adj. at Guard Mounting."

On June 16th notification was received of the partial reduction of the Militia by men being allowed to volunteer into the Line. Bounty ten guineas and a Subaltern's commission with every sixty men.

On July 1st, 2nd and 3rd the Regiment marched in three divisions through Southampton, Ringwood and Wareham to Weymouth, where it encamped.

On July 24th the strength of the Regiment was reduced to 886 men in ten companies.

Brigade Order, August 3rd : " Regiments having Grenadier Caps will wear them when seen by H.R.H. the Commander in Chief ; they are also to be worn by Grenadiers of His Majesty's Guard."

Battalion Order, August 8th :—" As His Majesty's visits to the Camps are in general about 7 o'clock in the morning, it is expected that the officers will be dressed and ready to fall in at that hour."

" The Brigades of Militia will form their Grenadiers and Light Companies into Battalions, to the command of which officers will be appointed."

The Regiment remained at Weymouth till October 9th. On the two following days it marched in two divisions to Lewes, arriving on the 19th and 21st. The route lay through Dorchester, Blandford, Salisbury, Stockbridge, Winchester, Petersfield, Petworth, Steyning.

The Brigade consisted of—

1st and 2nd Somerset Militia at Silverhill.

Nottingham Militia at Playdon.

South Hants Militia at Winchelsea (H.Q.).

Major-General Fraser in command.

Extract from Regimental Orders :—" A Sergeant and 4 Privates to attend all Coal deliveries to take up the women who rob the Wheelbarrows, that they may be drummed out of the Regiment."

On June 26th and 28th the Regiment, in two divisions, moved to Winchelsea and Rye. The portion at Rye went into camp near Cliff End on August 8th.

July, 1806 : Penny postage introduced for letters of non-commissioned 1806. officers and men.

The following is inserted as a specimen of the punishments of the time :— The sentence of a G.C.M. held at Portsmouth on Pte. John Armstrong, a private of the 54th Foot, for striking Captain Hawkshaw, was published for information in January. The prisoner was sentenced to receive 1,500 lashes. " His Majesty has approved of the finding, and confirms the sentence of the Court-Martial. But from the impossibility of carrying the full extent of the sentence into effect, and not from a consideration of any circumstance of mitigation in the commission of so serious an offence, His Majesty has been pleased to command that the sentence shall be limited to 1,000 lashes. It appearing to His Majesty that a punishment to the extent of 1,000 lashes is a sufficient example for any breach of military discipline short of a capital offence, and as even that number cannot be safely inflicted at any one period, His Majesty has been graciously pleased to express his opinion that no sentence for corporal punishment should exceed 1,000 lashes."

The Regiment volunteered for service in Ireland on January 27th. The Regiment was stationed at Lewes in August, at Eastbourne in September, and at Steyning and Battle till October 27th, on which date it marched for Portsmouth, arriving on November 3rd. Four hundred and seventy men occupied Portsea Barracks, the remainder of the Regiment being quartered in Hilsea Barracks.

Between September 1st and November 22nd, 298 men volunteered to the Line.

An Act passed this year (Geo. III, 48, c. 3) established the " Local Militia," to replace the Regular Militia when embodied and in place of Infantry Volunteer Companies. The chief provisions were :—Age, 18-30 ; service, four years. 1808. No substitutes. Volunteers might transfer to the Local Militia, receiving two guineas bounty. No ballot was taken in any district if the required quota enrolled. This force was six times the strength of the Regular Militia, from which it was quite distinct.

Many Volunteer Corps transferred their services *en masse*, and those who did not do so were gradually disbanded from lack of funds. Instructors were provided by the Regular Militia. The Somerset Local Militia numbered over 6,000 men, divided into seven regiments.

The Somerset Volunteer Corps who transferred their services *en masse* were few in number. Mention is made in the Order Book of the 1st Somerset Militia of the Bridgwater, West Somerset, Polden Hill and Highbridge Local Militia Regiments. The remaining three regiments were the East and West Mendip and the East Somerset Local Militia.

The Local Militia remained in existence till June, 1815. The strength of the 1st Somerset at this time was 1,200 men.

In February, measles and inflammation of the lungs were rife to an alarming extent, with some fatal cases, among the recruits. Each recruit was ordered to be supplied with a warm flannel shirt, the ill-fitting clothing, especially the waist-coats, being held to be the cause of the sickness in the Regiment.

Garrison Orders, March 6th :—" In consequence of the number of Mad Dogs having of late been permitted to be at large, Brigadier-General Eveleigh directs that all officers and Soldiers in this Command who have dogs will tie them up till further orders, and it is particularly recommended that all Officers Commanding in Barracks, and all Officers and N.C.Os. Commanding Guards, will take the most efficient means in their power to destroy all dogs of every description that are seen loose in their respective Barracks and Posts."

On March 25th, 26th and 28th the Regiment marched in three divisions to Bristol. The route lay through Waltham, Winchester, Andover, Ludgershall, Devizes, Bath to Bristol, arriving on April 1st, 2nd and 4th.

On May 19th a detachment consisting of 1 Field Officer, 1 Captain, 2 Subalterns, 5 Sergeants, 2 Drummers and 100 Rank and File proceeded to Milford. This was a ten days' march through Chepstow, Abergavenny, Brecon, Landeverly, Llandilo, Carmarthen, Narboth, Haverfordwest, to Milford, with a day's halt on Sunday.

The Regiment having volunteered for foreign service, the following letter in acknowledgment was received, dated " Horse Guards, August 25th, 1808 " :—

" My Lord, I take the earliest opportunity in my power to acknowledge your Lordship's letter of the 22nd inst., with an enclosure from Lt.-Col. Sir Chas. Bampfylde, containing an offer of the 1st Somerset to extend their services to Spain or any part of Europe.

" And I beg your Lordship will be pleased to convey through Sir Chas. Bampfylde, my best thanks to the Regiment for this additional proof of their zeal and to assure them that I shall not fail to make an immediate communication of it to His Majesty.

" FREDERICK.

" *C. in Command.*

" TO COLONEL EARL POULETT."

Owing to the state of preparation for immediate service in which the whole Army now found itself, a General Order was published on July 20th dispensing with the use of queues till further notice. A small sponge was this month added to each man's regimental necessities " for the essential purpose of frequently washing his head."

An Act passed this year authorized the increase of the Militia by 20,481 men, raised by beat of drum. On February 4th a serious quarrel occurred between Major

Joliffe and Sir W. Yea, but mutual apologies having been offered and **1809.** accepted, the quarrel was amicably made up. The Adjutant and four of

the senior officers considered, however, that the dispute should have been settled by a duel between the two officers named above, and on the following day these five officers held a private meeting at which it was resolved to forward to Earl Poulett a report of what had occurred, and meanwhile these five officers agreed not to associate with or do any military duty with the two officers whose conduct was complained of until Earl Poulett had made known his sentiments.

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A Court of Enquiry assembled on April 3rd at Bristol to investigate the case, and gave as their opinion :—" That although highly intemperate language had passed between these two officers, yet in consequence of the immediate and mutual apology which passed, the Court doth honourably acquit them."

The Court also expressed the opinion that the conduct of the five officers who held the private meeting was highly improper, unjustifiable, and contrary to good order and military discipline, and considered that these five officers should be placed under arrest pending the assembly of a G.C.M.

The confidential report of May 15th, 1809, throws some light on this affair, and shows that peculation and other abuses were rife in the Regiment. One party, headed by Sir W. Yea, endeavoured to check these abuses ; the other party, headed by Captain Graves, the Adjutant, made no effort to improve the state of the Regiment.

The Court-Martial assembled on June 1st and lasted with adjournments till June 6th. The Court found the five prisoners guilty, and sentenced them to be dismissed from the Regiment. His Majesty approved and confirmed the sentence, but in consideration of the Adjutant's long service—thirty years—and excellent character, he commuted the sentence in his case to suspension from Rank and Pay for three calendar months.

The following appointments appear under date August 15th, 1809 :—

Lieut.-Colonel John Hulton, from West Somerset Local Militia, to be Colonel vice Sir Chas. Bampfylde, resigned August 15th, 1809.

Wm. W. Dampier, from 40th Foot, to be Captain vice Captain Porch dismissed.

W. Coryton, Esq., Captain, vice Captain Adney dismissed.

John Norris, Esq., Captain, vice Captain Clutterbuck dismissed.

John Meech, Esq., Captain, vice Captain Cooke dismissed.

On July 8th five companies of the Regiment marched through Wells, Bridgewater, Taunton and Cullompton to Exeter ; the other five companies marched on July 10th to Cullompton. Both divisions arrived at their destinations on July 13th, and four days later the entire Regiment marched to Berry Head Barracks, arriving on the 20th.

The following is given as the " Daily Occupation of the Regiment " :—

Morning parade at quarter past ten o'clock, and Guard mounting.

Evening parade at sunset.

Drills for awkward men and recruits from six to half past seven in the morning and from five to half past six in the evening.

Inspection of necessities every Monday morning.

Field days twice a week, weather permitting.

N.C.Os. dine at half past 12 o'clock, at which hour the drum beats.

Drum for orders at one o'clock.

N.C.Os. and Privates draw their meat and bread every two days.

Coals and candles are issued weekly.

The Réveillé beats at day-break, the Troop at half past ten, the Retreat at sunset, and Tattoo at 9 o'clock.

An Officer of the Day marches off the different Guards, visits them and the Men's Barracks, and reports accordingly to the Commanding Officer.

The Battalion attends Divine Service every Sunday morning, weather permitting.

There were 99 men employed in harvesting operations.

On October 3rd the Regiment marched in two divisions through Totnes and Modbury to Plymouth.

On November 1st detachments from the Regiment relieved the West Essex Militia on board the prison ships *Oiseau*, *Firm* and *Hector*. These were prize ships and were stationed in the Hamoaze, where they were used as prison ships for prisoners of war. The detachments comprised 6 Lieutenants, 9 Sergeants, 15 Corporals, 7 Drummers and 253 Privates. The 1st Devon Militia relieved this detachment on January 23rd, 1810.

November 14th : Extract from Standing Garrison Order of Plymouth :—

"The Lieutenant-General wishes to avail himself of this opportunity to inform the officers that Sashes worn outside the Coat when dressed in Silk Stockings and shoes, form no part of their military dress.

"The Sash is considered to notify an officer being prepared for any duty, which he cannot possibly be when dressed in the manner above-mentioned. He therefore desires that the custom of wearing Sashes when dressed in Silk Stockings and Shoes may be discontinued."

The following is a copy of a letter from Colonel Keane, commanding the 13th Foot, to Earl Poulett :—

"MARTINIQUE,
"April 6th, 1809.

"MY LORD,

"I feel great pleasure in having it in my power to inform your Lordship that we have lost very few of the Somerset men. It is but justice to them to add that a finer or more respectable set of men never were seen.

"Their conduct has been highly creditable and deserves the greatest praise. A very great acquisition indeed have they been to us.

"Should we be so fortunate as to see old England again, it will give me sincere gratification to renew the friendship that exists with the 1st Somerset.

"J. J. KEANE,
"Lt.-Col., 13th Infantry."

Colonel Keane was afterwards Lord Keane of Ghuznee.

On May 22nd the Regiment supplied 10 non-commissioned officers and 10 well-drilled privates to act as instructors in the Polden Hill Local Militia at Bridgwater, commanded by Lieut.-Colonel Strangeways. In addition to supplying 1810. guards on board the prison ships, the Regiments of the Plymouth Garrison also took turns in providing a detachment consisting of about 500 of all ranks for the guarding of war prisoners at Dartmoor Prison.

On October 20th a General Order, Horse Guards, was issued stating that from September 25th last a Drum or Bugle Major should be borne on the establishment of each regiment, with the rank and pay of Sergeant. The person to be appointed

for this situation to be selected from the present Drummers and Buglers, and the establishment for the Regiment of eight Battalion Companies and two Flank Companies to be as follow :—1 Drum Major, 19 Drummers, 2 Fifers.

The stoppages which it is understood have heretofore been made in the pay of Drummers and Buglers for the purpose of remunerating the Drum Major are to be discontinued from September 25th.

An Act (Geo. III, 51, c. 20) was passed this year allowing men from the Militia to volunteer into the Line up to one-seventh of quota. An Ensigny being given for every fifty men. Recommendations for commissions to be accompanied
1811. by a statement as to the age and eligibility of the officers recommended owing to the inconvenience caused on previous occasions through recommending officers who, from age or infirmity, were perfectly inefficient.

Another Act, passed in July, allowed for the interchange of service between the English and Irish Militia. Service in Ireland and England respectively being limited to two years, at the expiration of which period these volunteers were not liable for service again for six years except in case of actual invasion or rebellion.

The Regiment having provided the whole of its quota for the Line except six, the Battalion Companies were equalized in May.

On June 5th the tour of duty on board the prison ships came round again, and 8 Subalterns, 15 Sergeants, 18 Corporals, 8 Drummers and 309 Privates embarked on ten ships for guard duty.

Regimental Orders, July 13th :—" Serious complaints having been made to the C.O. by the Custom House Officers that men of the 1st Somerset Regiment doing duty on board the different prison ships are in the habit of selling the Straw Plats, contrary to positive order, he therefore informs them that the first man who may be discovered guilty of disobeying this order shall be brought before a Court-Martial and severely punished."

Attempts at escape on the part of the prisoners of war were frequent. The following is an extract from Regimental Orders :—

" Pte. Danl. Seward publicly thanked in General Orders by order of Lieut.-Genl. England for resisting a bribe of 30 guineas from a French prisoner of war to aid his escape from Mill Bay Prison."

On July 27th Lord Poulett expresses his surprise at several officers of the Regiment having appeared in plain clothes, contrary to the General Order of March 12th. Lord Poulett adds that he shall be under the necessity of ordering any officer to his rooms who may be found guilty of such misconduct.

On July 29th attention is called to the fact that all officers are not always present at morning parade, and a warning issued that any future offenders will be reported to the General.

The prison ships detachment disembarked on August 6th.

On August 18th a detachment comprising 2 officers and 10 rank and file marched into the county of Somerset for the purpose of raising recruits for the 1st Somerset by beat of drum.

Regimental Orders, September 2nd :—" The C.O. having learned with great surprise and astonishment that there are at this present moment several of the Soldiers' children in the Barracks who are infected with the small-pox, he therefore



1812-16.

directs that they be instantly removed, as their being permitted to remain is contrary to all rules and regulations of His Majesty's Service."

On September 26th the officers are directed to supply themselves with feathers according to regulations. These were red and white for the Battalion Companies, white for the Grenadier Company, and dark green for the Light Company.

The Regiment was inspected on September 30th by Lieut.-General England. The following instructions were issued the previous day :—

"White collars or white handkerchiefs are not to be worn by the officers, which are contrary to the order of the Regiment. The shirts not to be seen, and the coats to be buttoned to the top.

"Officers of the Grenadiers and Light Companies to change the Red Cloth in their Wings to black velvet."

On October 5th the men's canteens and haversacks were ordered to be marked with their respective names in large letters.

The Regiment was inspected by Major-General Thomas on October 7th, who expressed his appreciation of its steadiness in the field, and observes that it is only an act of common justice to state that ever since the Regiment marched into this garrison there had never been one single complaint against an individual of the Corps.

Regimental Orders, October 15th :—"Agreeably to the Standing Orders of the Regiment, the Musicians of the Band will every Saturday apply the Dutch Pink to the lace of their Clothing in order that it may appear clean on the morning Parade of the ensuing Sunday."

On October 27th the Grenadiers were ordered to discontinue wearing their fur caps until further orders except when on duty.

On December 8th a detachment of the Regiment, comprising 1 Field Officer, 5 Captains, 10 Subalterns, 1 Surgeon, 20 Sergeants, 6 Drummers and 500 Rank and File marched on December 10th, 11th and 12th to Dartmoor Barracks.

The first and second divisions each escorted 250 prisoners of war to Dartmoor Prison.

Regimental Order, February 5th :—"A Regimental School for young children and soldiers (including girls) of N.C.Os. and Privates of the Regiment having been established in accordance with a Circular Letter from the 1812. Commander in Chief, parents are directed to send the names of those able to attend to Sergt. Lovell, who will be held responsible that the children are instructed agreeably to the G.O. dated Horse Guards, January 1st, 1812."

On February 11th and 12th the detachment returned from Dartmoor, having been relieved by the Shropshire Militia.

The price of bread delivered to the Regiment from February 25th to March 24th, both days inclusive, was 13d. per 4 lb. loaf.

On February 27th all soldiers who had been allowed to work for individuals or the public were ordered to return to duty on March 10th. No applications for leave would be forwarded unless of an exceptional nature. (This was in order to have all ranks available for drill, etc., as favourable weather approached.)

In March, in accordance with an order from the Commander in Chief, the accoutrements of the Regiment were ordered to be marked with a special iron, commencing with the Grenadier Company.

On April 1st Lieut.-General England states that the recent cases of small-pox among the troops indicate inattention and neglect on the part of the Regimental Medical Officers. He directs that there should be more frequent inspections, and where a man has no visible marks of previous vaccination, he should be vaccinated without loss of time.

A Horse Guards letter of April 7th calls attention to the assembly of the Local Militia for training and their need for instructors. Line and Militia Regiments are desired to supply as many N.C.Os. and well-drilled privates for this purpose as they can spare. These selected men to receive, in addition to the pay from their regiment, the pay of their rank from the Local Militia while so employed.

On October 26th practically the entire Regiment marched to Dartmoor Barracks for two months' duty guarding prisoners of war, returning to Plymouth in December.

In April the Regiment moved to Maker Barracks, and in the following month marched into Cornwall, where it remained till September (Headquarters, Pendennis Castle), and thence to Frankfort Barracks, Plymouth. The following

is an extract from Regimental Orders while the Regiment was at 1813. Pendennis :—"Capt. Perry, Lieuts. Kitson, King and Bristow and

Ensigns Eaton, Bristow and W. H. Chorley ordered to Plymouth as evidence on a General Court-Martial on Lieut. Hughes for horse-whipping Lieut. Notley." Lieut. Hughes was dismissed the Service.

From *Taunton Courier*, Thursday, August 26th, 1813 :—"A duel was fought on Thursday morning at Pendennis Castle between Capt. Perry and Lieut. Leader of the 1st Somerset Militia. The former was shot through both thighs, but there are hopes of his recovery. The Lieutenant and the two seconds have absconded."

No order books exist to give details of the next move of the Regiment, which was to Ireland, but from the Quarterly Pay List it appears the Regiment embarked from Plymouth for Cork on December 29th. The Regiment embarked on seven transports under Major Sandford and lay in the Catwater awaiting a fair wind until January 1st, when they sailed. The disembarkation took place on January 9th at Monkstown, but details are wanting as to the strength, as the record states that some of the transports were missing, having been driven into Kinsale and Baltimore.

Acts passed this year (1813) (54 Geo. III, c. 1 & 54) enabled the Militia to extend its services to any part of Europe, 30,000 men being asked for this purpose. A Brigade of three provisional battalions, under the Marquis of Buckingham, was formed, which landed in France near Bordeaux in 1814, and was placed in the Earl of Dalhousie's division for service under the Duke of Wellington.

A War Office Circular issued this year stated that a Line Commission would be given to a Captain with 50 men, Lieutenant with 30 and Ensign with 20. The rank of Colour-Sergeant was created in July of this year.

On its arrival in Ireland the Regiment proceeded on January 10th to Kilkenny, where it remained till September.

Extracts from Regimental Orders while the Regiment was at 1814. Kilkenny :—

“ Troops of the Garrison to march to and from Church with arms.”

“ The Picquet to be divided into 3 divisions and to patrol every hour of the night for the preservation and tranquility of the City.”

March 17th, St. Patrick's Day :—Guards augmented and extra picquets. Serious rioting took place, a rioter named Magrath being killed.

“ In consequence of the very riotous and refractory disposition of the inhabitants, all unnecessary intercourse is forbidden. The men are cautioned against straggling into the country in consequence of Pte. John Perry having been most wantonly insulted and beaten.”

The main guard was augmented during the Assizes and two sentinels furnished at the Judge's lodgings. All sentries being doubled between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m.

On April 9th the garrison fired, in honour of the capture of Paris, a salute to the King, with Colours dropped. Bands played the “ Downfall of Paris.” On April 17th the garrisons fired in honour of the abdication of Napoleon Bonaparte and recall of Louis XVIII. White cockades worn and all recruiting suspended.

June 18th, being Kilkenny Fair, the Regiment was confined to Barracks. The Commander-in-Chief in Ireland compliments the Regiment on its order, discipline and good conduct.

“ A Captain's detachment to attend the execution of Keefe and Carroll.” Strong detachments of the 36th Regiment and 1st Somerset attended an execution at the county jail. (The 36th Regiment and 42nd Highlanders had just returned from the Peninsula).

Extract from Garrison Order, September 16th, 1814 :—

“ Lieut.-Gen. Gordon would fail in his duty if he did not express to Major Joliffe, the Officers and Regiment at large the gratification he has experienced by the excellent conduct of the Corps during the period it has been under his command, and under circumstances frequently that have marked their good discipline and cool judgment.

“ They carry with them to their own country the Lieut.-General's best wishes and the great regard of all the respectable inhabitants of this extensive district.”

On September 19th and 20th the Regiment started on its march in two divisions for Middleton for embarkation to England. (A War Office Circular had been published in June notifying that the Militia would be disembodied with all convenient speed). In view of disembodiment, Lord Poulett applied to have the Headquarters of the 1st and 2nd Somerset fixed at Taunton and Bath respectively, as shown in the following letter :—

“ WHITEHALL,

“ 9th June, 1814.

“ MY LORD,

“ I have laid before the Prince Regent your Lordship's letter of yesterday's date, proposing that the 1st Somerset Militia should be disembodied at Taunton, and the 2nd at Bath, and that the Headquarters of these Regiments when disembodied should be respectively fixed at the above places, and I am to acquaint

your Lordship that His Royal Highness, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, is graciously pleased to approve of this arrangement.

“ I have, &c.,

“ SIDMOUTH.”

There was evidently great delay in the distribution of this Circular, as, although the copy sent to the Regiment was dated August 23rd, it was not received till October 21st, and meanwhile a General Order from the Horse Guards, issued on October 20th and received the following day, suspended the disembodiment.

The route of the Regiment lay through Featherd, Cahir, Michalstown, Fermoy to Cove (Cork), where the Regiment assembled on September 24th. Four Companies embarked on the *Portland* transport, four on the *Prince of Wales*, and two on the *Hannah*, on the 25th. Port St. Mary, Scilly Isles, was reached on October 8th, where a stay of two days was made, Plymouth being reached on October 11th. The Regiment disembarked the following day and started on its march to County Headquarters for the purpose of being disembodied. Marched in breeches and leggings, the trousers being worn out. The Regiment marched in two divisions, the route being through Oakhampton, Crediton, Tiverton, Wellington to Taunton, which was reached on October 18th.

The order for disembodiment having been revoked, the Regiment remained at Taunton until October 31st, when it marched in two divisions through Exeter and Morton-Hampstead to Dartmoor Barracks, to relieve the 14th and 37th Regiments. The suspension of the order for disembodiment produced much disappointment, and 200 men signed and forwarded a petition to the Commander-in-Chief asking to be disembodied. A similar petition was also sent for publication to a Taunton paper, but the Editor refused to publish it. In December there was a great increase of ophthalmia among the Plymouth garrison, and any man showing the least signs of this complaint was sent to Stoke General Hospital. Ptes. Holland and Snelling complimented in Orders for detecting four American prisoners endeavouring to escape.

In January the Regiment returned to Frankfort Barracks, Plymouth. Regimental Orders, February 2nd :—“ In consequence of instructions received from Maj.-Gen. Browne, the Commanding Officer directs that the Officers
1815. will in future hold their swords across their Body with the Fingers of the left hand as near the point as possible, the handle of the sword being downwards and their right arm extended without restraint, and when saluting they will bring their sword to the Recover, with the Left Foot, and drop it with their Right (bringing the left hand to the cap) six paces before they reach the General.”

On March 3rd the Regiment marched to Dartmoor Barracks, returning to Stonehouse Barracks in April, where it remained till October, when it moved into Marlborough Square Barracks.

On peace being declared between England and America, the following order was issued :—“ Notwithstanding the news of peace between England and America, the happy event is on no account to be regarded as a signal for intemperance or tumult.”

On April 6th the American prisoners of war, upwards of 5,000 men, made a general and desperate attempt to escape. The following extract shows that it was a serious affair.

Extract from the *Dorchester and Sherbourne Journal*, Friday, April 15th, 1815 :—

“ There were very serious disturbances last week among the American prisoners in the Dartmoor depot, in which several lives were lost. From the several accounts we have received, it appears that from the time when they were informed of the ratification of the treaty of peace, by Mr. Madison, they became impatient of further restraint ; and upon understanding that two American 74-gun ships and some frigates were expected at Plymouth to receive and incorporate them with their crews, and thence to proceed against the Algerines, they determined to resist this presumed infringement of ‘ Sailors’ rights.’ On Thursday evening last, after the usual signal had been given for shutting up the prisons for the night, the prisoners made a breach in the prison barrack wall. The guard was called to defend that part of the prison. Soon after the prisoners made a rush from the lower gates of the prison, towards the entrance ; and the guard went down to the market square to prevent their taking entire possession of it. Capt. Shorland and the Surgeon went before the military to expostulate with the prisoners, and endeavour to dissuade them from an attempt that must inevitably be attended with loss of lives. But they continued to advance upon the guard, and, it is said, attempted to seize one of the soldiers’ firelocks ; upon which he discharged it at the offender. Others of the guard fired also ; nor were the prisoners induced to desist from their attempt to escape till five of them had been killed, and about thirty wounded.’ Another letter, dated Sunday morning, says : ‘ The prisoners at Dartmoor are still very turbulent. One of them was shot yesterday, who had made a hole in the roof of the prison and got out upon it. About 600 of them got away on Monday ; and the rest declare they are determined to go also, if half of them are shot in the attempt. Three prisoners have died of their wounds and several have had arms and legs amputated. The 11th Regiment is at Dartmoor, as well as the Somerset and Derby Militia.’ ”

On April 14th an Order from the War Office directed that all volunteers and substitutes who had completed their five years’ service were to be discharged in four sections, one-quarter on May 10th, June 10th, July 10th and August 10th.

The Regiment remained at Marlborough Square Barracks till instructions were issued on January 10th for the disembodiment of the Regiment, to take place as soon as it arrived in its own county. The Regiment left Plymouth on

1816. January 22nd, and, marching by the usual route, reached Taunton on January 27th, being disembodied on January 31st, after having been embodied continuously since March, 1803.

CHAPTER VII

1817—1908

1817-1828 : Reductions in Staff. 1830 : Silver lace only to be worn by Militia. 1831 : Training at Taunton ; the Ballot made use of for the last time. 1833 : Precedence of Militia Regiments decided. 1852 : Militia reorganized. 1854 : Embodied.—New Colours presented. 1858 : Grenadier and Light Companies abolished. 1869 : Property qualification for Officers abolished. 1871 : Command of the Militia transferred to the Crown. 1873 : Leigh Camp rented as a training ground. Dartmoor Manœuvres. 1875 : Constituted Light Infantry. 1881 : Territorial system introduced, and 1st Somerset Militia became 3rd Battalion Somerset Light Infantry. 1896-7 : Training at Orchard Portman. 1898 : Last training on Leigh Hill. 1899 : Salisbury Plain manœuvres. 1900 : Embodied. 1908 : Militia ceased to exist.

FROM this year till 1852 there is little in the way of history to record except reduction of staff. An Act passed this year (57 Geo. III, c. 57) enabled 1817. the annual training to be dispensed with by an Order in Council.

1818. No training under Order in Council.

No training under Order in Council. A circular was issued in March, 1819. by which the establishment of N.C.Os. and Drummers was reduced to the following proportions : One sergeant and one corporal to every 40 privates, and one drummer to every two companies, an additional drummer being allowed for each Flank Company.

In the following month another circular stated that the number of sergeants and corporals to be borne on the strength of the Regiment was to be 12 of each and 6 drummers.

In November the Arms were ordered to be sent to Plymouth, with the exception of those for the staff.

The Regiment (ten companies) trained at Taunton from September 1820. 11th to October 8th.

1821. Training at Taunton from May 25th to June 14th.

1822. Order in Council suspended training.

A War Office Circular issued in November stated that any vacancies 1823. in the office of Quartermaster were not to be filled up.

The Paymaster to have charge of the Arms and Stores, assisted by a sergeant, the latter receiving 1s. 10d. a day.

1824. No training.

1825. The Regiment trained at Taunton from May 11th to June 7th.

1826. Training suspended.

1827. Training suspended.

1828. Training suspended. In December a revision of staff at Headquarters took place. One Adjutant, one sergeant-major, one sergeant for every 40 men, one drummer for every two companies, with an additional one for



1831.

each Flank Company, and in regiments of eight companies a drum-major, were retained. The Paymaster, Surgeon and all the corporals were thus dispensed with.

The Ballot had been regularly enforced up till this year and the men drawn although often no training took place. The ballot was suspended by an

1829. Act (10 Geo. IV, c. 10) passed this year, and an Act subsequently passed to this effect annually except in 1831.

Training suspended. An Order was published in September stating that in future silver lace only would be worn by the Militia, and gold lace by the

1830. Regular Army. Fusils were this year issued to sergeants, instead of pikes. In December the vacancies in the Militia were ordered to be filled by ballot.

1831. The Regiment trained at Taunton from May 12th to June 8th. This was the last time that the Ballot was made use of to fill the ranks of the Militia. No training took place till 1852.

In this year the precedence of Militia regiments was decided. As will be seen by the Orders issued in 1759, 1760 and 1793, efforts had been made previously to settle this question. The uncertainty as to when regiments were

1833. completed for service, together with the fact that regiments were often known by the name of their commanding officers, whose social rank varied considerably, sometimes led to confusion and jealousy.

Between 1788 and 1803 the various counties drew lots annually for regimental precedence, all regiments of one county having the same number, but ranking among themselves according to the dates when they were raised. After 1803 the drawing of lots seems to have taken place at irregular intervals. The 1st Somerset number was 40 in 1800 and 9 in 1806 and 1814.

By order of King William IV, in 1833, all Militia regiments of the United Kingdom were to be numbered on one list, and separately, to finally and permanently settle the precedence.

A banquet was held at St. James's Palace on July 28th, all Lords-Lieutenants and Militia Commanding Officers being commanded to attend.

The Regiments were divided into three classes, according to the dates they were completed for service in 1756 and the following years.

First ... The 47 before the peace of 1763.

Second ... The 23 between 1763 and the peace of 1783.

Third ... The 60 from the Revolutionary War.

The Ballot took place in the presence of the King.

The 1st Somerset number became 16.

The following extracts are taken from an article on the Somerset Militia by Mr. F. Stansell of Bath, published in the *Taunton Courier* of October, 1900. Part of the information had already appeared in the *Somerset County Herald* in March, 1897, the period referred to being 1834-50.

"The pay per week then was: Sergeants, 10s. 6d.; corporals, 8s. 2d.; drummers, 7s. The staff used to attend St. Mary's Church every Sunday morning. At a quarter-past ten a drummer stood at the church gates and beat the drummers' call. At half-past ten the drummers fell in at the bottom of the Parade, and marched around playing the tune 'Bonnie Christ Church Bells' to call, the

sergeants together. Before they marched to church "Troop the Guard" was gone through on the Parade to a slow march. The stores and headquarters of the Regiment were in East Reach (where Mr. Moore, plumber, now lives). The Regiment assembled in Taunton for permanent duty for 28 days once a year. The officers' quarters and mess were at the Castle Hotel in North Street, where sentry was kept night and day, relieved every two hours. The drummers paraded the street every morning at half-past five as a call for the first drill, and at a quarter to seven in the evening the band played on the Parade the tune 'The Roast Beef of Old England' as a call for officers' mess. At nine 'Tattoo' was sounded as a warning for bed."

In this year further reductions of staff took place, the drum-major
1835. and drummers being reduced.

The insufficient state of the Militia staff seems to have attracted attention, as a circular was issued in December ordering the staff to be at once brought up to the numbers fixed by Act 4 & 5 William IV.

More officers were appointed this year and the staff increased, but the movement was short lived, as in September a circular was issued stating that no further action would be taken to revive the Militia laws, and if any vacancies
1846. had occurred they were not to be filled up. The Militia became practically extinct until 1852.

An Act (15 & 16 Vic., c. 50) was passed in June for reorganizing the regular Militia with a quota of 80,000 men, to be raised by voluntary enlistment. Age 20-35, height 5 ft. 4 in., bounty £6 for five years' service. Under this
1852. Act 50,000 men were to be raised in 1852 and 30,000 in 1853. The Ballot was only to be used in the event of a county being unable to provide its quota. The training period to be from 21 to 56 days.

The number of volunteers who were enlisted in the Regiment between September 21st and November 19th was 606.

1853. Training at Taunton, May 3rd to 30th.

1854. The Regiment was embodied on May 2nd and proceeded to Plymouth, where it remained till March, 1855.

The late Colonel H. C. Henley used to relate that when he joined in 1853 the senior Subaltern was a very old man with a long white beard. In explanation of this, he stated that when the Regiment was disembodied in 1816 the names of the officers then serving were retained in the official lists until the reconstruction of the Regiment in 1852, when they were again called on for service. Of those who then survived, the majority from age or infirmity were quite unfit for any military service.

Owing to the outbreak of the Crimean War and the increasing demand for men for the Regular Army, a War Office Circular was issued in November asking the embodied and disembodied Militia to give as many Volunteers as possible to the Guards, Line and Royal Marines.

A bounty of £7 was offered, and an Ensigncy without purchase was given for every 75 men enlisting.

On October 31st, 1854, the Regiment was presented with New Colours on Plymouth Hoe by Lady Poulett on behalf of the Ladies of Somerset, by whom they were worked. (These Colours were borne until 1912, when they were



1854.

deposited in St. Mary's Church, Taunton, on November 7th.) The *Exeter Flying Post* of November 9th gives an account of the ceremony.

“PRESENTATION OF COLOURS TO THE 1ST SOMERSET MILITIA.

“The interesting ceremony of presenting Colours to this Regiment took place on Tuesday week on the Hoe, Plymouth, and was witnessed by a large concourse of spectators. Among those on the ground were the Countess Poulett, Countess of Morley, Lady Lopes, Lady Yarde Buller, Mrs. Eden, Mrs. Bastard of Kitley, Miss Praed, Miss Corynton, Lord Portman (Lord-Lieutenant of Somerset), The Earl of Morley, Major-General Eden (commanding the Western District), Colonel Sir J. Y. Buller, etc.

“The consecration was performed by the Rev. G. W. Langmead, and the presentation was made by the Countess Poulett, who gave a Colour to each of the officers near her, Ensign Warry with the Queen's Colour standing on her right and Ensign Henley with the Regimental Colour to the left. Her Ladyship delivered an address to the Regiment, which was received with loud plaudits.

“Colonel Lord Hinton, the Commanding Officer of the Regiment and son of the noble Countess, returned thanks for the honour which had been done to the Regiment by the Ladies of Somerset in an appropriate speech, in the course of which he expressed the high gratification he felt at the efficiency of the men. His Lordship was loudly cheered. The Regiment was also addressed by Major-General Eden, after which the troops returned to the garrison.

“In the evening a ball was given at St. George's Hall, and was brilliantly attended.”

An Act (18 Vic.) was passed this year to accept the services of the Militia out of the United Kingdom. Many regiments offered their services, and ten served at Gibraltar and the Ionian Isles. The Regiment moved from 1855. Plymouth to Taunton on March 31st. In this month all Militia correspondence was transferred from the Home to the War Office.

A Board of Militia officers assembled in August at Aldershot to again consider the question of the precedence of Militia regiments, but a Horse Guards Order issued the same month stated that County Titles were to be used in all official documents, and the regimental number, being only a subsidiary title, was not to be used alone. The regimental number of the 1st Somerset Militia remained 16 till the Territorial system came into force in 1881.

The Regiment moved from Taunton to Aldershot on February 7th, 1856. and remained there till June 6th, when it returned to Taunton, and was disembodied on June 12th.

1857. No training took place this year.

1858. Training at Taunton from October 5th to 25th. In this year the Grenadier and Light Companies were abolished.

1859. Training at Taunton from September 13th to October 3rd.

1860. Training at Taunton from April 27th to May 23rd.

The following extract is from Mr. Stansell's article on the Somerset Militia referred to previously, under date 1834 :—

“In the Sixties and down to the early Seventies the men were billeted upon

not only the inns, but many private small houses in the town, during their 28 days' training, and their drill ground a field near the cemetery at Stepswater. In or about 1875 the band used to play the 'Retreat' at 6 p.m. each week day, marching from the Barracks round the Parade and, I think, to the bottom of North Street—as the staff-sergeants and buglers occupied the Barracks before and during the building of the present barracks—but this 'Retreat' playing was not of long duration."

Training at Taunton from April 11th to May 7th. The Enfield rifle
1861. came into general use this year.

Training at Taunton from April 24th to May 14th. A War Office
1862. Circular issued in April notified that officers would be allowed to attend the School of Musketry at Hythe, receiving the pay of their rank and travelling allowances.

1863. Training at Taunton from April 22nd to May 12th.

1864. Training at Taunton from April 21st to May 11th.

Training at Taunton for 27 days from May 1st to May 27th. Soldiers
1865. of the Regular Army with eighteen years' service were allowed to complete their period of service for pension by transferring to the Militia.

Training took place at Taunton for 27 days, which from 1865 became
1866. the normal period; but the recruits came out for a week's drill this year prior to the Battalion assembling. This preliminary drill was extended to two weeks from 1867 to 1870 inclusive.

The pay of officers was made the same as in the Line this year.
1869. Lodging allowance was allowed during training to officers not in quarters at the following rates:—Colonel, 4s.; Major, 3s.; Captain, 2s. 3d.; Subalterns, 2s. per day. Half this allowance was given to officers in camp or quarters, and an allowance of 4s. a day was also granted towards maintaining a mess. The training and P.D. extended from April 5th to May 5th at Taunton.

By an Act (32 Vic.) passed in May, the property qualification for officers was abolished.

A step of honorary rank was conferred on retirement according to the following scale:—After 15 years' service, officers were allowed to retain their rank and wear uniform on retirement. A step of honorary rank was also granted on retirement after 20 years' service. This latter grant was extended in 1870 to officers who might be still serving.

Training for 27 days took place at Taunton. The training of recruits
1870. and battalion training extending from April 11th to May 21st.

An Act (34 & 35 Vic.) passed this year transferred the Command
1871. of the Militia from Lords-Lieutenant to the Crown, officers to receive their commissions direct from the Sovereign. Commanding Officers were authorized to extend the preliminary drill of recruits up to six months if required.

The training took place at Taunton, the recruits' training being extended to four weeks. The entire period being from March 27th to May 20th.

The appointment of Honorary Colonels to regiments was sanctioned this

year. By a General Order all Subaltern Recruit Officers were to qualify in their duties within a fixed period and to serve three trainings before being
1872. eligible for promotion to captain. Officers of all ranks to pass before promotion to higher rank.

The appointment of Adjutant was limited to five years. Preliminary drill and training at Taunton from March 18th to May 11th.

Preliminary drill and training took place this year at Leigh Camp, near Taunton. This site was rented by Government and was used as a training ground by the 1st Somerset continually (except 1896 and 1897) until the lease

1873. expired after the training of 1898. The preliminary drill and training extended from March 10th to May 31st.

From July 14th to August 23rd the Regiment took part in the manoeuvres on Dartmoor, the place of assembly being Fort Woodlands; the 1st Devon Militia, 1st Somerset and 2nd Royal Tower Hamlets forming a brigade. The weather during practically the whole time was most unfavourable, and opposing units often failed to locate each other in the Dartmoor mists.

In this year it was notified by a War Office Circular that from December 8th the period of service for Militiamen and Militia Reserve would be six years instead of five.

The Regiment was constituted Light Infantry in November of this year, the following notification appearing in the *London Gazette* of November 9th :—

“ Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to approve of the 1st Somerset
1875. Regiment of Militia being in future designated ‘Light Infantry.’ ” Dated November 1st, 1875.

By a War Office Circular issued in May, Militia officers became subject
1877. to the Articles of War all the year round, and must report to their Commanding Officers before proceeding abroad. Commanding Officers reporting to the Adjutant-General.

1878. The Militia Reserve was called up for Army Service by Royal Proclamation issued April 3rd.

In this year the Territorial system was introduced. Regiments were
1881. formed which were composed of both Line and Auxiliary Force units as battalions. Line regiments ceased to use their numbers and adopted the Territorial designation of the old County Regiments with which they became associated. The two battalions of the 13th Regiment became the 1st and 2nd Battalions Somerset Light Infantry, and the 1st and 2nd Somerset Militia became the 3rd and 4th Battalions Somerset Light Infantry.

The precedence numbers of Militia regiments having been allotted by ballot (as detailed in the year 1833), it often happened that the senior regiment of the county bore a higher number than the junior one. This was overlooked by the authorities, and the title of 3rd Battalion was given to the Militia regiment bearing the lowest number. Thus the 1st Devon Militia became the 4th Battalion Devon Regiment, their Militia number being 41, whilst the 2nd Devon Militia became the 3rd Battalion Devon Regiment, their Militia number being 25. As the 1st and 2nd Somerset Militia was respectively numbered 16 and 47, no change in seniority occurred. The Militia regiments ceased to wear black facings and their old distinctive badges and silver lace, and the precedence number (16) was

abolished. Under the new system the responsibility of counties and Militia units in the matter of recruiting for the Militia ceased to exist, and the old established system of the regimental training of recruits was also abolished. The effect of these changes on the Militia was to produce a steady decline in the strength of the Force.

An Army Circular of July 1st notified that Majors and Captains who had attained the age of 55 on September 1st in any year should be compelled to retire.

The Martini rifle was issued this year. Many Militia regiments
1882. volunteered their services for garrison duty owing to the Egyptian War, but none were embodied.

1886. Honorary rank underwent an alteration this year, a step being given to Field Officers and Captains after twenty and fifteen years respectively.

1887. The valise equipment was served out this year before the training.

1889. At a Militia Commission which assembled this year it was decided—

(1) That recruits should have an extra fortnight's training immediately before the Battalion training.

(2) That flannel shirts should be served out.

(3) That the letter M on the man's shoulder straps should be changed to the Battalion number.

Owing to the decrease in strength of the Militia since 1881, a Horse
1890. Guards letter of February 12th stated that the establishment of those regiments which for several years had been under strength would be reduced by two companies.

The Lee-Metford rifle was served out this year. Owing to the greatly
1895. increased range of the new arm and the penetration of its bullet, the old range near Leigh Camp was considered unsafe, and a Musketry Camp was formed at Orchard Portman where recruit musketry was performed, the Regiment following by half battalions.

The Regiment trained this year at Orchard Portman, being the first
1896. occasion that training had been carried out away from Leigh Camp since its inception.

Training at Orchard Portman. A fine centre-piece for the Officers' Mess was provided this year from surplus Mess funds. The centre-piece consists of a large silver cup with cover, bearing the Dragon crest of the Duke of

1897. Monmouth; on the plinth below are four silver statues representing an officer and musketeer of 1660 and an officer and private of 1897. Colonel

H. C. Henley retired this year under the age limit. He joined the Regiment in 1853. Colonel J. Beadon, second in command, also retired under the age limit. The Regiment, owing to being under strength, was reduced from eight companies to six.

Training took place at Leigh Camp for the last time owing to the
1898. War Office lease expiring this year.

The Regiment was encamped this year at Perham Down, Salisbury
1899. Plain, taking part in the manœuvres.

A general embodiment of the Militia took place this year in consequence of the South African War. The Regiment was embodied on
1900. May 15th and proceeded the same night to Plymouth, where it moved

into camp at Tregantle. A Maxim machine gun was served out to the Regiment on embodiment. The Regiment remained in camp until July 23rd, when it moved into North Raglan Barracks, Devonport, at which place it remained until disembodied on December 4th at Taunton.

There was no regular training this year, but those officers and men
1901. who wished to come up for training were allowed to do so, and trained as one company at the Depot.

Training took place at Bulford, Salisbury Plain. The Regiment was
1902. to have provided one company for duty in London during the Coronation of His Majesty King Edward VII. The Coronation was postponed owing to the serious illness of the King, but the review at Aldershot took place and the Regiment was moved into camp at Jersey Brow and took part in the review.

Training took place at Maker Heights, Plymouth, musketry being
1903. carried out at Tregantle.

The recruits and battalion musketry were carried out at Whitchurch,
1904. near Bristol. The training took place at North Hill, Minehead. The route from Whitchurch to Minehead was by road to Bristol and thence by steamer to Minehead.

Service dress was introduced this year, one company, "C" Company, being thus equipped.

Training was carried out at Honiton during the years 1905-1908.

In 1908 the provisions of "The Territorial and Reserve Forces Act,
1908. 1907," came into force and the Militia ceased to exist. Under this Act 23 infantry Militia battalions were disbanded and the remaining 101 battalions were converted into reserve battalions.

It is not intended to criticize the wisdom of dispensing with the services of a Force which had rendered such useful service to the nation in the past, and which was capable of being enlarged to meet emergencies, but to those acquainted with the History and Traditions of the Militia its disappearance was a matter for sincere regret.

ROLL OF OFFICERS

The compilation of a roll of officers who have served with the Regiment is a matter of considerable difficulty.

Between 1758 and 1779 there are no Order or Letter Books existing, and the Lord-Lieutenants' Minute Books cannot be traced.

Beyond a few letters and returns in the Record Office, some Inspection Reports, and some brief notices in contemporary newspapers, no information is forthcoming.

The Army List of 1779 and Musters for 1781-3 give the names of officers, but not the dates of their commissions.

For the disembodied period, 1783-93, no lists can be traced, and it was not until 1787 that the names of Militia officers appeared in the "London Gazette."

The Regimental Order Books existing, cover fairly completely the period 1793-1816. The Militia Lists commenced in 1793, and with the exception of three years (1798, 1802, 1806) were continued annually until 1814, but these lists are often inaccurate.

It is regretted that two Order Books covering the Napoleonic War period, and the Officers' Succession Book, have disappeared since 1908.

The following list is believed to be as complete as it is possible to make it. Any additions or corrections will be much appreciated.

OFFICERS OF THE 1st SOMERSET REGIMENT OF MILITIA.

1758 TO 1908.

	Ensign.	Lieutenant.	Captain.	Major.	Lieut.-Col.	Remarks.
Bampfylde, Coppleston	—	—	—	Nov. 1758	Dec. 1761	Colonel, 2/6/1767.
Warre ...	—	—	—	—	—	Colonel, 23/6/1759. Not serving 1765. ? Died 1764.
Poulett, John, Earl ...	—	—	—	—	—	Retired 1767.
Helliard, John ...	1758	—	Oct. 1762	—	1764	Resigned Nov. 1761.
North, Lord ...	—	—	—	—	23/6/1759	Not serving 1761.
Balch, Robert ...	—	—	1759	—	—	Not serving 1764.
Combe, Richard ...	—	—	1759	—	—	Resigned 1760 and died same year.
Southey, Cannon ...	—	—	1759	—	—	Not serving 1762.
Hunt, John ...	—	—	1759	—	—	Not serving 1768.
Grant (or Graunt), Thomas	—	1759	1761	—	—	Was Adjutant. Died 1760.
Slocombe, John ...	—	1759	1760	—	—	—
Donne, James ...	Serv. 1759	—	—	—	—	—
Warry, George ...	Serv. 1759	—	—	—	—	Resigned Nov., 1761.
Serle, John ...	Serv. 1759	—	—	—	—	Not serving 1775.
Mallock, John ...	Serv. 1759	—	Dec. 1761	1764	—	Resigned Nov., 1761.
Harvey, John ...	Serv. 1759	—	—	—	—	Not serving 1761.
Winter, Charles ...	Serv. 1759	—	—	—	—	Not serving 1768.
Noltey, John (Notley ?)	Serv. 1759	—	1762	—	—	Not serving 1768.
Gapper, Henry ...	Serv. 1759	1761	1764	—	—	Lieut. 33rd Ft., 1/9/1756.
Corfield, William ...	Serv. 1759	Apr. 1761	—	—	—	—
Beavis, Henry ...	10/5/1760	—	—	Oct. 1762	—	—
Trevillian, William	—	—	Nov. 1761	—	—	—
Melliard, James ...	—	—	Nov. 1761	—	—	Not serving 1762.
Folliard, John ...	—	1761	Dec. 1761	—	—	Not serving 1775.
Quantock, Math.	—	1761	1764	—	—	—
Mead-Russell, William ...	—	1761	—	—	—	Not serving Oct., 1762.
Stroud, William...	—	1762	1764	—	—	Not serving 1775.
Sanford, John ...	4/4/1761	Jan. 1762	15/11/1774	—	—	Died at Plymouth, 1779.
Bullen, Richard	resd.	Dec. 1762	—	—	—	—
Knott, William ...	Dec. 1761	—	—	—	—	—
Combe, Robert ...	Dec., 1761	—	—	—	—	—
Wansbrough, Brudenell	1762	—	—	—	—	Not serving 1780.
Hartgill, —	6/2/1762	2/9/1763	1779	—	—	Not serving 1768.
...	—	—	1764	—	—	—

Smith, Robert	...	—	—	1764	—	—	Resigned 1772. Not serving 1774. Not serving 1774. Not serving 1770. Colonel 24/10/1778.
Daw, —	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shute, John	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Day, —	...	—	—	1764	—	21/8/1767	—
Coxe, Richard Hippisley	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Somers, —	...	—	—	1764	—	—	—
Darch, Thomas	...	—	—	30/9/1767	1779	11/6/1787	Resigned 1/8/1794.
Halliday, John	...	—	—	1/10/1767	11/6/1787	16/8/1794	Resigned 7/7/1795.
Warren, Thomas	...	—	—	7/11/1768	—	—	Not serving 1781.
Brickdale, Mathew	...	—	—	2/10/1767	—	—	Not serving 1781.
Bernard, James	...	—	—	3/10/1767	—	—	Not serving 1779.
Manley, James	...	—	—	24/6/1781	26/8/1794	18/1/1796	Died 18/10/1797.
Popham, Alexander	...	—	—	16/9/1768	—	—	Not serving 1782.
Poole, James	...	—	—	7/11/1786	—	—	Not serving 1783.
	...	—	—	(4th Ft. 1756)	—	—	—
	...	—	—	(In 112th Ft. 1762)	—	—	—
Whitmarsh, John	...	—	—	1779	—	—	—
Hicks, John William	...	—	—	1779	—	—	Not serving 1781.
Halliday, Ed. Trouble.	...	—	—	3/10/1770	—	—	Resigned 24/3/1794.
Coxe, Charles Hippisley	...	—	—	3/5/1774	—	—	Died 1789.
Bastide, George	...	—	—	4/5/1774	—	—	Capt. Lieut., 1779.
Whalley, Francis Ed.	...	—	—	—	—	—	Resigned 14/6/1793.
Cork, Edmund, Lord	...	—	—	5/5/1774	9/12/1779	1779	Colonel, 23/11/1784.
	...	—	—	—	Nov. 1774	1/5/1778	Oct. 1798.
Cockle, William	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Curtis, John	...	—	—	20/7/1775	—	—	Not serving 1783.
Ceely, William	...	—	—	7/1/1776	1781	—	Not serving 1781.
Burland, John Berkley	...	—	—	2/4/1777	—	—	Not serving 1781.
Poulett, John, Earl	...	—	—	2/4/1778	1779	—	Colonel, 16/4/1778. Also in 1798 on the death of Lord Cork.
Ackland, John	...	—	—	—	—	—	Not serving 1781.
Gough, James	...	—	—	23/4/1778	—	—	Not serving 1779.
Bovet, Thomas	...	—	—	1779	—	—	—
Strode, John	...	—	—	13/2/1756 (7th Ft.)	1/5/1778	—	Not serving 1781.
Edgell, Chaffin	...	—	—	3/5/1778	22/4/1789	—	Resigned 25/3/1794.
Webb, Nathaniel	...	—	—	—	—	Bt. 1/5/87	Resigned 27/1/1793.
Adderley, John	...	—	—	8/5/1778	1779	28/1/1793	Not serving 1781.
Hull, Thomas	...	—	—	—	—	24/2/1787	—
	...	—	—	10/5/1778	1781	—	—

OFFICERS OF THE 1ST SOMERSET REGIMENT OF MILITIA—Continued.

	<i>Ensign.</i>	<i>Lieutenant.</i>	<i>Captain.</i>	<i>Major.</i>	<i>Lieut.-Col.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
Axford, John ...	19/5/1778	—	—	—	—	—
Poole, James, Junr. ...	20/5/1778	—	—	—	—	Resigned 1/6/1789.
Dyer, William ...	21/5/1778	—	—	—	—	Not serving 1779.
Napper, John ...	23/5/1778	—	—	—	—	Not serving 1783.
Trevillian, William ...	7/8/1778	—	—	—	—	Not serving 1781.
Coxe, Henry Hippisley ...	—	12/8/1778	24/4/1782	27/7/1795 18/1/1796	—	Died 1796.
Wilson, Robert ...	1779	—	—	—	—	Not serving 1781.
Davis, John ...	1779	—	—	—	—	Not serving 1781.
Hull, John ...	—	1781	—	—	—	—
Simpkins, Charles ...	—	1781	—	—	—	—
Axford, Benjamin ...	—	1781	—	—	—	—
Heslop, John ...	—	1781	—	—	—	Not serving 1783.
Drval, Charles ...	—	1781	—	—	—	Not serving 1783.
McDough, Eugene ...	1781	—	—	—	—	Not serving 1782.
Dungarvon, Edwd., Visct. ...	1781	27/5/1787	22/4/1789	—	—	—
Strangeways, Thomas ...	1781	—	—	—	—	—
Byrn, James ...	1781	—	—	—	—	—
Salmon, James ...	1781	—	—	—	—	—
Napper, Edward ...	1781	1782	—	—	—	—
Hole, Robert ...	—	1782	—	—	—	—
Berry, Charles Douglas	1782	—	—	—	—	—
Hall, — ...	1783	—	—	—	—	—
Cooper, William ...	1783	—	—	—	—	—
Pennington, John ...	—	19/7/1786	—	—	—	—
Napper, John ...	—	—	24/2/1787	—	—	Adjutant. Resigned 1811.
Graves, Robert ...	10/3/1787	1/5/1787	Bt. 1794	—	—	—
Kelson, Samuel ...	—	12/5/1787	—	—	—	Resigned 18/8/1794.
Boyle, Hon. Charles ...	12/5/1787 26/6/1793	20/12/1792 6/9/1793	—	—	—	—
Smith, John ...	—	5/6/1787	23/5/1787	13/8/1795	23/11/1797	—
Andrews, Edward ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Edgell, Martin Folkes ...	5/6/1787	—	—	—	—	Resigned 6/5/1796.
Hornet, Thos. Strangeways	—	—	8/8/1788	—	—	Resigned 23/12/1797.
Jesser, John ...	—	22/6/1789	29/5/1794	—	—	Resigned 23/7/1793.
Taylor, Charles W. ...	—	26/4/1789	1/11/1791	—	—	Resigned 25/3/1794.
Curtis, Robert ...	—	26/4/1789	1/11/1791	—	—	Resigned 1793.
Halliday, Simon Wellman	—	26/4/1789	—	—	—	—

Medlicott, Willm. Coles	2/5/1789	—	—	—	—	Resigned 27/12/1796. Resigned 1789.
Graves, A. W. ...	2/5/1789	1794	—	—	—	Not serving July, 1805. Not serving 1801.
Porle, James ...	—	1/6/1789	1797	15/7/1803	—	—
Prowse, George Bragge	—	1/6/1789	1799	—	—	—
Staple, Philip ...	—	1/1/1790	—	—	—	—
Bampfylde, Sir Charles	—	16/2/1790	27/4/1805	18/8/1807	—	Resigned 14/8/1809. Resigned 26/4/1790. Resigned 15/6/1790.
Warwick, Bart. ...	—	24/3/1790	—	—	—	—
Sandford, John ...	—	1/5/1800	—	—	—	—
Gifford, John Alex. ...	—	4/8/1790	—	—	—	—
Leeson, Joseph ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mausegh, John Southcote	18/8/1790	—	—	—	—	—
Barton, John ...	10/10/1790	28/3/1791	—	—	—	—
Redhead, Samuel	—	21/12/1792	—	—	—	Resigned 26/3/1795.
Hanning, William	—	12/1/1793	—	—	—	Resigned 1794.
Vassall, John, jun. ...	—	23/1/1793	—	—	—	Resigned 3/7/1795.
Davis, Richard ...	—	28/1/1793	—	—	—	Resigned 27/5/1796.
Gartside, John ...	—	28/1/1793	—	—	—	Resigned 23/7/1793.
Pogson, Edward	—	29/1/1793	—	—	—	—
Deane, Hon. John	1/2/1793	18/9/1795	—	—	—	Resigned 12/5/1794.
Pettingal, Francis	2/2/1793	15/6/1793	—	—	—	Resigned 23/12/1797.
Cotten, Richard...	21/2/1793	7/9/1793	—	—	—	Resigned 1/3/1794. Reap- pointed 1801. Paymaster and Lieut., 1806.
Nagle, James ...	22/2/1793	26/11/1793	—	—	—	Resigned 18/5/1796. Pay- master, 25/9/1805.
Bampfylde, Hon. Charles	—	reappointed 8/2/1804	—	—	—	—
Francis ...	8/4/1793	—	—	—	—	Resigned 9/5/1794.
Anderson, John	27/4/1793	26/4/1794	—	—	—	To 11th Foot, 25/8/1807.
Bayley, Zach. ...	27/4/1793	26/4/1794	—	—	—	Not serving 1803.
Graves, Anthony	2/5/1793	1794	—	—	—	Resigned 27/12/1796.
Colebrooke, George	8/5/1793	1/5/1794	19/7/1802	27/4/1805	—	Resigned 17/8/1807.
Coles, James ...	—	6/6/1793	—	—	—	—
Warre, John Tyndall	—	6/6/1793	—	—	—	—
Manley, James ...	—	6/6/1793	—	—	—	—
Jones, John ...	—	16/6/1793	—	—	—	Not serving Jan., 1799.
Debieg, Henry	24/6/1793	29/5/1794	—	—	—	Not serving 1796.
Bayley, Zach. Clutterbuck	2/10/1793	—	—	—	—	Resigned 1794.

OFFICERS OF THE 1ST SOMERSET REGIMENT OF MILITIA—Continued.

	<i>Ensign.</i>	<i>Lieutenant.</i>	<i>Captain.</i>	<i>Major.</i>	<i>Lieut.-Col.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
Debbieg, Clement ...	7/10/1793	30/5/1794	—	—	—	Resigned 18/8/1796. Reappointed 16/7/1803. Resigned 14/3/1806. Not serving 1800.
D'Arcy, Thomas ...	29/1/1794	21/8/1794	23/4/1795 18/1/1796	—	—	Resigned 17/6/1795. Resigned 31/7/1796. Resigned 26/4/1794. Resigned 1/6/1806.
Martyn (Martin), William	5/2/1794	27/3/1795	—	—	—	Superseded 23/6/1796. Resigned 26/3/1795.
Hanham, Charles ...	13/2/1794	22/4/1795	—	—	—	Resigned 26/1/1795. Surgeon.
Emmett, Edwin Cheere	13/2/1794	—	—	—	—	Resigned 18/3/1796. Surgeon.
Newman, John ...	26/4/1794	23/4/1795	27/7/1795 18/1/1796	15/7/1803	—	Resigned 6/4/1797. Resigned 20/9/1795.
Armstrong, John W. ...	27/4/1794	19/6/1795	—	—	—	Resigned 28/8/1797. Serving 1798. Surgeon's Mate.
Matthew, John M. ...	1/5/1794	—	—	—	—	Resigned 30/9/1795.
Williams, David ...	9/5/1794	—	—	—	—	Resigned 22/1/1796. Quartermaster, 1805.
Snowden, George ...	29/5/1794	—	—	—	—	Resigned 18/9/1797.
Gray, Pope ...	8/7/1794	3/6/1795	—	—	—	Resigned 7/10/1795. Vol. to 40th Ft., 15/8/1807.
McCarthy, Charles Smith	21/8/1794	18/7/1795	—	—	—	Superseded 13/5/1796.
Edgeworth, Sir Essex	—	—	—	—	—	Resigned 24/9/1796.
White, Bt. ...	27/1/1795	27/7/1795	—	—	—	—
Thompson, William Mott	22/4/1795	4/6/1796	—	—	—	Quartermaster, 1800.
Naylor, James ...	23/4/1795	—	—	—	—	Resigned 22/8/1796. Resigned 15/8/1796.
Thompson, John Mott	25/5/1795	—	—	—	—	—
Thompson, William ...	28/5/1795	—	—	—	—	—
Bernel, George Daniel ...	—	19/6/1795	—	—	—	—
Bennett, Andrew Burton	27/7/1795	—	7/5/1796	—	—	—
Munro, Archibald ...	2/8/1795	24/6/1796	—	—	—	—
Lyster, Thomas ...	30/8/1795	—	—	—	—	—
Wallis, Alexander ...	31/8/1795	—	—	—	—	—
Archer, James ...	3/10/1795	1/8/1796	—	—	—	—
Allport, Joseph ...	8/10/1795	—	—	—	—	—
Hudson, John ...	16/10/1795	16/8/1796	—	—	—	—
Carnel, Peter ...	5/11/1795	—	—	—	—	—
Smith, John ...	—	—	18/1/1796 18/1/1796	—	—	—
Horner, Thos. Strangeways	—	—	—	—	—	—
Donald, James ...	17/2/1796	13/11/1796 1798	—	—	—	—
Groves, Anthony W. ...	3/3/1796	—	—	—	—	—
Gihon, Robert Wm. ...	3/3/1796	—	—	—	—	—
Smith, John ...	28/3/1796	1/6/1797	—	—	—	—

Lloyd, John ...	13/5/1796	—	19/5/1796	—	—	—	Resigned 14/3/1797. Surgeon. Resigned 6/4/1797.
Bridge, Samuel ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Woodham, John ...	18/6/1796	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bridge, George ...	12/7/1796	—	19/9/1797	—	—	—	Resigned 26/10/1796.
Monro, Hugh ...	18/1796	—	20/9/1797	—	—	—	—
Rutter, Thos. Joshua	16/8/1796	—	20/9/1797	—	—	—	—
Swyer, William ...	18/8/1796	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bridcoke, Thomas	19/8/1796	—	21/9/1796	—	—	—	—
Brawell, George Danl.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hunt, Matthew	27/10/1796	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carnell, Philip Perry	—	—	10/11/1796	—	—	—	—
Gee, George ...	10/11/1796	—	—	18/12/1797	—	—	—
Hickson, Robert	11/3/1797	—	5/4/1798	—	—	—	—
Wood, William ...	17/3/1797	—	—	—	—	—	—
Page, William ...	13/4/1797	—	1798	—	—	—	—
Jones, Launcelot	10/9/1797	—	—	—	—	—	Resigned 25/12/1797.
D'Arcy, Thomas	23/11/1797	—	1799	—	—	—	—
Clark, George G.	24/11/1797	—	1799	—	—	—	Resigned 25/1/1798. Resigned 18/6/1798.
Givenett, Edward	25/11/1797	—	—	—	—	—	Resigned July, 1798.
Gilbie, John C. ...	11/12/1797	—	—	—	—	—	Resigned 24/3/1798.
Maxtone, Anthony	18/12/1797	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rogers, George J.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Moutitz, George...	18/1/1798	—	—	22/3/1798	—	—	—
Whitmarsh, Henry	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Edwards, Thomas	5/4/1798	—	—	—	—	—	Paymaster. Resigned 6/9/1798.
Gibbes, Samuel Osborn	1798	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kelly, Robert ...	8/4/1798	—	—	—	—	—	—
Campbell, Peter...	22/5/1798	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jones, John ...	—	—	—/6/1798	—	—	—	Superseded 25/4/1799- (?).
Dudley, Thomas	12/6/1798	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barrington, Math.	19/8/1798	—	—	—	—	—	—
Overend, Daniel	26/8/1798	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hood, Nathaniel	14/9/1798	—	—	—	—	—	—
Simmonds, Samuel	—	—	1799	—	—	—	Resigned 1/1/1800.
Sanderson, George	1799	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ashurst, Nathan	1799	—	—	—	—	—	2nd Adjutant from Serjt.-Maj. Resigned 1852.
Jolliffe, John Twyford	...	—	—	25/10/1800	25/6/1806	1/3/1809	—
Graves, Anthony	1800	—	—	—	—	—	—
Slade, William ...	—	—	1801	—	—	—	—
Rooke, Richard	—	—	1801	—	—	—	—
Redmond, Charles	1801	—	1801	—	—	—	—

OFFICERS OF THE 1ST SOMERSET REGIMENT OF MILITIA—Continued.

	<i>Ensign.</i>	<i>Lieutenant.</i>	<i>Captain.</i>	<i>Major.</i>	<i>Lieut.-Col.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
Porch, Thomas ...	1801	1802	20/7/1802	—	—	Dismissed 28/6/1809.
Hinton, Lord ...	—	—	1802	—	—	—
Donald, Thomas ...	1802	—	—	—	—	—
Popham, Francis ...	—	—	19/7/1802	—	—	—
Hallett, William ...	—	1802	21/7/1802	—	—	Resigned 14/5/1809.
Marsh, Henry ...	—	—	22/7/1802	—	—	—
Yea, William Walter ...	—	20/7/1802	22/7/1803	27/8/1807	—	Resigned 23/10/1809.
Sandford, Willm. Ashford	—	20/9/1802	—	—	—	—
Leigh, John ...	—	—	—	—	1803	—
James, Edward ...	—	2/3/1803	—	—	—	—
Fortye, Thomas ...	—	21/3/1803	—	—	—	Died 1/4/1826.
Edwards, Charles, jun.	22/3/1803	—	1804	—	—	Resigned 13/3/1805.
Bernell, George ...	23/3/1803	—	—	—	—	—
Grove, Thomas ...	—	—	24/3/1803	—	—	—
Carter, Nathl. T. ...	—	11/8/1803	—	—	—	To 40th Foot, 15/8/1807.
Hawkins, Sir J. C. ...	—	—	1804	—	—	—
Burridge, Francis Geo.	—	1804	13/7/1804	—	—	—
Coles, James ...	—	—	17/7/1804	—	—	—
Leigh, Robert ...	—	1804	19/10/1804	—	—	Resigned 24/10/1808.
Cross, Francis ...	—	1804	20/12/1804	—	—	Resigned 14/5/1809.
Kitson, William ...	1804	10/6/1804	—	—	—	—
Smith, James ...	1804	7/9/1804	—	—	—	Died 10/8/1806.
Greenhill, John D. ...	—	1804	—	—	—	—
Ellis, James ...	—	1804	—	—	—	—
Warmington, William ...	—	1804	—	—	—	—
Hobkirk, William ...	—	1804	—	—	—	—
Langdon, Charles ...	—	1804	—	—	—	—
Taunton, Thomas ...	—	1804	—	—	—	—
Rooke, Richard ...	—	1805	—	—	—	—
Cook, John ...	1805	1/5/1805	—	—	—	Resigned 30/4/1806.
Jones, Benjamin O. ...	1805	—	—	—	—	—
Hallett, William ...	—	30/4/1805	1808	—	—	Late 6th Dragoons. Resigned 15/8/1809.
Burgess, Richard ...	1/5/1805	1806	—	—	—	Vol. to 40th Ft., 15/8/1807.
Hugo, Charles ...	—	27/9/1805	—	—	—	Surgeon's Mate. Resigned 24/9/1809.
Marten, John ...	rejoined	2/12/1809	—	—	—	Resigned 1806.
Blake, Charles ...	27/9/1805	—	—	—	—	—
	1806	3/8/1806	—	—	—	—

Barford, Edmd.	...	25/2/1806	1807	—	—	—	Resigned 22/2/1809.
Hamilton, John	...	26/2/1806	2/10/1807	—	—	—	Resigned 14/5/1809.
Allen, Henry E....	...	—	—	27/3/1806	—	—	To 23rd Ft., April, 1813.
Dunn, George	...	29/4/1806	3/10/1807	—	—	—	Vol. to 74th Ft., 15/8/1807.
Sampson, Robert J. J.	...	—	4/6/1806	—	—	—	—
Notley, George	...	30/7/1806	—	—	—	—	From Quartermaster.
Barnard, William C.	...	31/7/1806	5/10/1807	—	—	—	—
Smith, Henry S.	...	6/8/1806	3/4/1810	—	—	—	—
Garnsey, John	...	19/9/1806	6/10/1807	—	—	—	Vol. to 40th Ft., 15/8/1807.
Adney, John	...	—	—	3/1/1807	—	—	Dismissed 28/6/1809.
Quantock, John	...	—	—	28/2/1807	—	—	Resigned 12/2/1808.
Oliver, Thomas	...	4/5/1807	20/1/1808	—	—	—	Resigned 24/9/1809.
Harding, Samuel	...	22/5/1807	—	—	—	—	Dismissed 28/6/1809.
Clutterbuck, Thomas	...	—	—	1808	—	—	Resigned 15/8/1809.
Cross, Francis	...	—	—	1808	—	—	—
Stanford, Charles	...	9/5/1808	14/12/1808	—	—	—	To 59th Ft., 6/6/1809.
Freese, George F.	...	14/6/1808	15/12/1808	—	—	—	Surgeon's Mate. Superseded
Meallin, William	...	18/6/1808	—	—	—	—	26/1/1810.
Cole, William	...	—	1/7/1808	—	—	—	Resigned 30/11/1808.
Carroll, Stanford	...	—	—	1/7/1808	—	—	—
Sheppard, Thomas	...	—	2/7/1808	—	—	—	Resigned 14/8/1809.
Eastman, Henry	...	16/7/1808	—	—	—	—	To 13th Ft., 1809.
Leader, Thomas H.	...	17/7/1808	10/8/1809	—	—	—	—
Lediard (Lydiard), Thos.	...	—	18/8/1808	—	—	—	Suspended 1810. Debt.
Hawkins, George	...	—	—	29/10/1808	—	—	Resigned 15/7/1809.
Cooke, John	...	—	—	24/11/1808	—	—	Dismissed 28/6/1809.
Sheppard, Thomas	...	—	1809	—	—	—	Resigned 14/8/1809.
Monkland, George	...	—	—	9/1/1809	—	—	Resigned 14/8/1809.
Richardson, John	...	—	—	—	—	—	Vol. to 13th Ft., 12/6/1809.
Davey, Thomas G.	...	9/2/1809	—	—	—	—	To 13th Ft., 12/7/1809.
Canole, Hanford	...	17/4/1809	—	—	—	—	—
Dampier, L. Westly	...	—	—	1/7/1809	—	—	From 40th Ft.
Coryton, William	...	—	—	10/8/1809	—	—	Removed 24/6/1810.
Norris, John	...	—	—	11/8/1809	—	—	—
Meech, John	...	—	—	12/8/1809	—	—	Removed 24/10/1813.
Armstrong, John	...	—	—	14/8/1809	—	—	To 40th Ft., 18/10/1809.
Houlton, John	...	14/8/1809	—	—	—	—	From West Somerset Local
Perry, Jeremiah	...	—	—	—	—	16/8/1809	Militia.
				24/8/1809	—	—	—

OFFICERS OF THE 1ST SOMERSET REGIMENT OF MILITIA—Continued.

	<i>Ensign.</i>	<i>Lieutenant.</i>	<i>Captain.</i>	<i>Major.</i>	<i>Lieut.-Col.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
Du Moulin, Andrew	—	—	1/9/1809	—	—	—
Heley, John	—	—	2/9/1809	—	—	Adjutant, 1829.
Thatcher, Charles	—	—	4/9/1809	—	—	Died 28/3/1813.
Mortimer, Joseph	—	—	5/9/1809	—	—	—
Henning, Thomas	—	17/9/1809	—	—	—	Resigned 24/6/1813.
King, Thomas	17/9/1809	2/11/1809	—	—	—	Died 2/9/1827.
Cruckshanks, James	—	26/10/1809	—	—	—	Promd. in 13th Ft., 25/12/1813
Gapper, Abraham A.	6/11/1809	—	—	—	—	Vol. to 15th Ft., June, 1811.
Field, James	3/2/1810	30/12/1811	—	—	—	—
Lucas, Robert	23/2/1810	—	—	—	—	Resigned 26/7/1811.
Langslow, Richard	—	—	2/8/1810	—	—	—
Gordon, John	2/8/1810	—	—	—	—	Promd. in the Line, 13/3/1811.
Jeboult, John H.	—	—	—	—	—	Vol. to 41st Ft., June, 1811.
						Killed in action (America), Sept. 1812.
Notley, J. T. B.	14/2/1811	10/3/1812	—	—	—	Resigned 15/11/1813.
Hughes, William	14/4/1811	27/7/1812	—	—	—	Dismissed 9/11/1813.
Genge, William	12/7/1811	—	—	—	—	Promd. to 46th Ft., 18/6/1812.
Barrett, William	13/7/1811	—	—	—	—	To 13th Ft., May, 1813.
O'Brien, De Lacy	26/7/1811	18/5/1813	—	—	—	Resigned 1820
Powell, William	29/1/1812	—	—	—	—	Assistant Surgeon.
Egan, Timothy	29/4/1812	—	—	—	—	Promd. in Rl. Wagon Train, 1814.
Bristow, John Joshua	30/4/1812	31/7/1813	—	—	—	Died 16/8/1814.
Grier, Benjamin	14/4/1813	—	—	—	—	—
	2/8/1814	—	—	—	—	—
Bristow, Samuel	15/5/1813	—	—	—	—	—
Chorley, William	22/5/1813	26/9/1814	—	—	—	Adjutant, 1815. Paymaster, 1831. Placed on Retired List, 1856.
Hutchings	—	—	—	—	—	Promd. in 40th Ft., 25/12/1814.
Farewell, Nathaniel	—	—	1/6/1813 16/11/1814	—	—	—
Aveline, Thomas H.	31/7/1813	1814	—	—	—	—
Bristow, J. J.	—	15/6/1814	—	—	—	Resigned 6/1/1815.
Eaton, John	—	24/1/1814	—	—	—	Retired 1852.
Jones, John	—	26/1/1814	15/6/1814	—	—	—
Jesse, Robert	—	27/1/1814	—	—	—	—
Farewell, John	—	15/2/1814	15/7/1815	—	—	—

Day, Edward ...	—	—	31/3/1814	—	—	Retired 1852.
Gatehouse, John ...	15/2/1814	26/9/181	—	—	—	Surgeon's Mate, 1825.
White, Samuel ...	16/2/1814	19/5/1815	—	—	—	—
Mortimer, Joseph ...	—	—	19/5/1815	—	—	—
Bere, John ...	—	—	20/5/1815	—	—	—
Lucas, John ...	—	—	14/7/1815	—	—	Died before June, 1820.
Atkins, Charles E. ...	—	14/7/1815	—	—	—	Died 26/7/1822.
Steel, William R. ...	20/7/1815	—	—	—	—	—
Poulett, John Earl ...	—	—	—	—	—	Colonel, 23/2/1819. Resigned 1852.
Chivers, Charles T. ...	1820	1825	—	—	—	Retired 1852.
Nagle, James ...	1820	—	—	—	—	Died 8/6/1829.
O'Donnell, John ...	1820	—	—	—	—	—
Powell, William H. ...	1820	—	—	—	—	Retired 1852.
Bicknell, Richard ...	1820	—	—	—	—	—
Carew, John Francis ...	—	—	1/6/1820	—	—	—
Tench, Donald William ...	—	1/6/1820	—	—	—	—
Rooke, Lewis ...	17/9/1820	18/3/1825	—	—	—	Retired 1852.
Smith, Henry S. ...	24/9/1820	—	—	—	—	—
Pinney, John A. Perkins ...	—	—	29/12/1824	—	—	—
Connellan, Edward N. ...	—	1825	—	—	—	—
Palmer, Spencer ...	—	1825	—	—	—	Retired 1852.
Houlton, John T. ...	—	1825	—	—	—	—
Hulton, George ...	—	—	1831	—	—	—
Marsh, Henry Godfrey ...	—	—	2/3/1831	—	—	Resigned 1860.
Baily, Edward Seymour ...	—	—	19/3/1831	—	—	—
Tench, Frederick Barton ...	21/3/1831	—	—	—	—	Superseded 1853.
Wright, John ...	21/3/1831	19/10/1852	—	—	—	—
Coxe, Richard Lovelock ...	21/3/1831	—	—	—	—	—
Warre, Alexander ...	—	—	24/3/1831	—	—	—
Beadon, John Hammet ...	—	—	11/5/1831	—	—	Resigned 1852.
Lowder, Samuel Herville ...	16/5/1831	—	—	—	—	—
Jenkins, William Vaughan, J.P. ...	25/5/1831	—	2/1/1836	8/9/1855	—	Resigned 1865.
Loveridge, Charles Warre, J.P. ...	—	—	19/1/1835	—	—	Resigned 1864.
Quantock, John Matthew, J.P. ...	—	—	11/1/1836	14/12/1857	—	Late 4th Dragoon Guards. Died 1864.
Cook, William Surtees ...	—	—	21/2/1846	—	—	Adj't. to disem'd. Mil., 1846. Acting Paymaster, 1853. Adjutant, 1854.
			h.p. unattached			

OFFICERS OF THE 1ST SOMERSET REGIMENT OF MILITIA—Continued.

	Ensign.	Lieutenant.	Captain.	Major.	Lieut.-Col.	Remarks.
Hussey, Thomas	—	—	4/4/1846	1/2/1864	14/11/1874	Hon. Colonel, 19/12/1874. Resigned 25/1/1879. Late Ensign, 68th Ft. Not serving 1854. Died 29/8/57. Resigned 1853.
Speke, William, J.P.	—	—	29/7/1851	—	—	—
Grimwood, —	—	? 1852	—	—	—	Resigned 7/8/1855.
Bishop, —	—	? 1852	—	—	—	Resigned 1853.
Clarke, Edward	—	20/12/1852	—	—	—	Late Captain, 8th Ft. Adj., 2nd Adm. Bn. Som. Rifle Vols., 1861.
Allen, Henry	? 1852	—	—	—	—	Colonel, 18/10/1852. Late Ensign, 68th Ft. Died 29/8/1857.
Malet, Alfred Augustus	? 1852	—	13/5/1852	—	—	Resigned 10/10/1874.
Hinton, Vere, Visct., D.L., J.P.	—	—	—	—	—	Late Lieut., 7th Hussars. Resigned 7/9/1855.
Phipps, Richard Leconby, D.L., J.P.	—	—	—	—	18/10/1852 unattached	Late Lt. Major, 45th Ft. Resigned 1869.
Miles, George Fredk. Willm.	—	—	—	19/10/1852	—	Resigned 12/1/1855. To Colds. Gds., Feb. 1855.
Elton, Isaac	—	—	19/10/1852	6/3/1865	—	Promd. in 2nd Som. Mil., 1854. Superseded 1853.
Allen, Arthur	19/10/1852	—	—	—	—	Resigned 22/1/1855.
Adney, Henry	—	20/10/1852	10/2/1855	—	—	Resigned 1854.
Dampier, Stephen Ryder	—	21/10/1852	—	—	—	Resigned 1865.
Wright, Henry Cripps	—	22/10/1852	—	—	—	Late Colds. Gds. and late Captain, 52nd Ft. (To Cold. Gds., Feb., 1855).
Langdon, John Churchill	—	23/10/1852	—	—	—	Resigned 1862.
Jebb, Gansel	—	25/10/1852	16/2/1855	—	—	Resigned 1854.
Louch, John	—	26/10/1852	18/12/1852	—	—	Resigned 1855.
Adair, Alexander Willm., J.P.	—	—	4/5/1864	—	—	Late Colds. Gds. and late Captain, 52nd Ft. (To Cold. Gds., Feb., 1855).
Batten, Herbert Butler	—	—	20/12/1852	—	—	Resigned 1854.
Jesse, —	—	? 1853	—	—	—	Resigned 1854.
Standert, Frederick C. S.	—	1853	—	—	—	Assistant Surgeon. Resigned 1854. Surgeon, 23/2/1860.
Foy, Henry Gully	1853	—	—	—	—	Resigned Dec., 1854.
Foster, Francis	4/12/1856	reappointed.	—	—	—	To Grenadier Gds., Nov., 1854.
Poulett, Honble. Amias	1853	—	—	—	—	Resigned 12/6/1855.
Stevens, John Stevens C.	1853	8/7/1854	—	—	—	—
	1853	8/5/1854	—	—	—	—

Adair, Robert Desmond	1853	16/6/1854	8/9/1855	20/11/1872 (Hon.)	—	Resigned 16/4/1873.
Bullock, George Troyte	13/1/1853	1/8/1854	—	—	—	Resigned 23/1/1856.
Warry, George Deedes, J.P.	14/1/1853	24/11/1854	15/12/1857	—	—	Resigned 1868.
Hoskins, Henry William	—	—/2/1853	—	—	—	Resigned 2/6/1854.
Henley, Henry Cornish, J.P.	5/2/1853	25/11/1854	9/8/1859	10/4/1869	26/2/1879	<i>Hon. Colonel</i> , 26/3/1879 and 17/11/1897. Retired 9/10/1897. Died 1917. Quartermaster, 1854-55. (Em- ployed in Turkey, 1855). Resigned 1861.
Villiers, William George V.	9/5/1853	23/1/1855	—	—	—	Resigned 8/8/1855.
Reynolds, Vincent John	9/5/1854	12/2/1855	—	—	—	Quartermaster, 15/7/1855.
Winsloe, Richard	17/6/1854	17/2/1855	—	—	—	Resigned 28/2/1874.
Warry, Thomas	10/7/1854	13/6/1855	9/7/1860	10/5/1873 (Hon.)	—	Resigned 1867.
Kemmis, Arthur H. N.	20/9/1854	8/8/1856	13/4/1861	—	—	Resigned 1862.
Freestun, May Jenkins...	27/12/1854	9/8/1855	—	—	—	To 31st Ft., 6/3/1855.
Badcock, Reginald Follett	28/12/1854	—	—	—	—	To 36th Ft., Oct., 1856.
Lucas, Thomas Hill	29/12/1854	8/9/1855	—	—	—	Retired 16/10/1886.
Patten, Schofield	30/12/1854	24/1/1856	7/3/1862 (Hon.)	6/8/1873 (Hon.)	7/8/1878	—
Owen, Herbert Parker	24/1/1855	30/3/1856	—	9/12/1874	—	To East India Cos. Ser., 1857.
Newbolt, John Rice	12/2/1855	—	—	—	—	Resigned June, 1855.
Carew, Coventry W.	14/6/1855	21/10/1856	—	—	—	Resigned 1862.
Dettmar, Mortimer	18/6/1855	25/7/1857	20/2/1864	—	—	Resigned 15/3/1873.
Sadler, Ralph	8/8/1855	16/12/1857	—	—	—	To 41st Ft., Feb., 1858.
Chaffey, Robert Chaffey	9/8/1855	2/2/1858	13/5/1864	—	—	Resigned 1872.
Hawker, Stapleton	27/9/1855	—	—	—	—	Resigned 31/12/1857.
Tynte, Charles Kemys, jun.	—	—	—	—	—	<i>Colonel</i> , 20/10/1857. Late Captain, 11th Hussars and Gren. Gds.
Barrett, Septimus James	17/12/1857	10/8/1859	—	—	—	Resigned 1868.
Patton, Lionel	2/2/1858	16/6/1860	8/4/1865	—	—	Resigned 1866.
Holworthy, Fred. Arthur	2/2/1858	—	—	—	—	Resigned before 1859.
May, Henry Stanhope	9/10/1858	—	—	—	—	Resigned 1859.
Patton, Aubrey De Lisle	29/6/1859	—	—	—	—	To 14th Ft., 14/6/1860.
Prowse, George Jas. Wm.	28/3/1860	6/4/1861	15/5/1865	—	—	Resigned 1872. Baltic Medal.
Tynte, Clifford W. C. K.	9/7/1860	16/7/1861	—	—	—	? Died 1870.
Maclean, William Gunston	—	19/7/1861	8/10/1866	—	—	Resigned 1868.

OFFICERS OF THE 1ST SOMERSET REGIMENT OF MILITIA—Continued.

<i>Ensign.</i>	<i>Lieutenant.</i>	<i>Captain.</i>	<i>Major.</i>	<i>Lieut.-Col.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
Bridge, Franklin Sealey	18/1/1862	11/2/1867	—	—	Resigned 6/8/1879.
Palmer, William Henry	8/4/1863	—	—	—	Late Lieut., 39th Ft. (Crimea, Sebastopol and Inkerman.) Resigned 1868.
Adair, Alexander William, J.P.	4/5/1864	—	—	—	Late Lieut. and Captain, Colds. Gds. (Crimea, Sebastopol and Inkerman). Resigned 1870.
Meade-King, Willm. Oliver	18/10/1867	19/12/1868	25/1/1882 (Hon.)	26/2/1887 (Hon.)	Retired 10/11/1888.
Parr, Thomas Roworth	—	16/4/1868	6/11/1886 4/12/1878 (Hon.) 7/7/1879	8/12/1883 (Hon.)	Late Lieut., Rifle Brigade. Resigned 4/6/1890.
<i>2-Lieut.</i>	<i>Lieutenant.</i>	<i>Captain.</i>	<i>Major.</i>	<i>Lieut.-Col.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
Marriott-Dodington, Thomas	4/9/1868	27/7/1870	3/4/1886 (Hon.) 9/1/1889	—	Resigned 1871. (Late Major, 69th Foot).
Blood, Francis Gamble	14/12/1869	—	—	—	Retired 29/10/1881.
Bennett, Henry Edward	19/12/1868	13/2/1872	—	—	Resigned 23/11/1881.
Burridge, William, jun.	19/12/1868	24/8/1872	—	—	From Derbyshire Militia.
Little, Charles Ed. ...	26/1/1870	—	—	—	Resigned 1871.
Harbin, Henry Ed. (H.)	17/9/1870	26/3/1873	—	—	<i>I. of M.</i> , 1876. Retired 25/11/1885.
Walsh, Henry Alfred ...	19/9/1870	—	—	—	To 13th Lt. Inf., 1876.
Rawlins, Henry de Courcy	20/9/1870	—	—	—	Resigned 23/4/1873.
Shee, Marcus Henry ...	21/9/1870	28/6/1873	—	—	Resigned 5/11/1879.
Hillcoat, Theophilus Pym	14/1/1871	14/3/1874	3/4/1886 (Hon.) 21/6/1890	9/7/1890 (Hon.)	Resigned 5/3/1892. (Ashanti Medal.)
Kemeys-Tynte, Halswell M.	4/3/1871	9/12/1874	—	—	Resigned 15/2/1879.
Beadon, John Hammet	14/3/1871	13/9/1879	3/4/1886 (Hon.) 10/10/1891	4/11/1891 (Hon.)	Retired 1897.

Richards, Henry Hutchings	—	27/3/1871	24/12/1879	2/8/1884 (Hon.) 2/4/1892	4/5/1892 (Hon.)	Late Lieut., 103rd Ft. Re- signed 13/6/1892.
Faithfull, Regd. Geo. H. (Superny.)	28/3/1871	—	—	—	—	Resigned 14/1/1874. Left by 1875.
Douglas, Sholto Claud ... (Superny.)	29/3/1871	—	—	—	—	Retired 19/8/1896. Hon. Colonel, 1901. Resigned 16/3/1901. (Late Lieut., 72nd Ft.). Died Oct., 1913. Resigned 18/4/1891.
Gore-Langton, Honble. Henry, P.C.	1/3/1872	21/12/1881 rejoined	12/5/1888 (Hon.) 6/8/1892	20/10/1897 reappointed	—	Left by 1878.
Hayward, Richard Henry (Superny.)	16/10/1872	11/1/1882	17/12/1887 (Hon.)	—	—	Resigned 22/6/1881. Late 6th West York Mil.
Helyar, Henry W. ... (Superny.)	7/5/1873	—	—	—	—	To 20th Ft., 23/1/1878. Re- signed 4/2/1899.
Wood, Andrew George Malet, John Warre ... Coleman, Maitland Rossiter	30/7/1873 14/3/1874 —	—	—	—	—	To 90th Ft., 30/1/1878. Left 1876.
Alcock, Walter ...	24/6/1874	—	—	—	—	To 77th Ft., 3/4/1878. Left by 1880.
Kinglake, Hamilton A.	3/10/1874	—	—	—	—	Resigned 27/2/1878. Resigned 11/1/1882.
Payne, Alexr. Vaughan Gwalkin, George Leigh ... Wood, William Stuckey Lean, Chas. Edwd. Stuckey Batten, Herbert Phelips Tomlin, Robert Dayrell	10/2/1875 28/4/1875 — 26/2/1876 21/3/1877 25/4/1877 2/5/1877 2-Lieuts.	16/1/1889 (rejoined)	19/7/1890 (Hon.)	—	—	Resigned 26/3/1879. Left by 1879.
Horton, Le-Gendre G. ... Howard-Vyse, Julian R. Tomlin, Banks Sacket P. Walsh, Theobald Lomax (H.)	12/12/1877 19/12/1877 27/2/1878 4/5/1878	20/12/1894 (3rd Bn.)	7/5/1902 (Hon.)	—	—	Resigned 7/2/1883. Retired 1902. Captain, 4th Battalion, 1884.
Gardiner, Arthur D. H. Harris, Claudius Shirley *Hicks, Hastings Edward (H.) ...	8/5/1878 29/5/1878 18/7/1878	23/12/1885 25/3/1891 reappointed	10/11/1897	5/6/1901	—	Resigned 8/3/1879. To 2nd Drags., 11/10/1879. Resigned 24/8/1889. Hon. Colonel, 1917. (Ashanti Star, 1896, with Houssa Police.) Died March, 1928.

* Joined Special Reserve, 1908.

OFFICERS OF THE 1ST SOMERSET REGIMENT OF MILITIA—Continued.

<i>2-Lieut.</i>	<i>Lieutenant.</i>	<i>Captain.</i>	<i>Major.</i>	<i>Lieut.-Col.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
Taunton-Collins, Henry E.	23/10/1878	26/11/1879	6/11/1886	—	Resigned 2/6/1894.
Radcliffe, Ernest Copleston	3/5/1879	—	23/12/1893	—	Resigned 2/7/1879.
Levita, Henry Plumridge	3/5/1879	24/1/1880	—	—	Resigned 14/3/1883. To 1st Drag. Gds., 23/8/1884.
Hamilton, Seymour R. G.	11/10/1879	—	—	—	Resigned 13/5/1882.
A.					
Hill, Reginald A. S.	15/11/1879	—	—	—	Resigned 9/12/1882.
Rawlins, Ed. Brinsley ...	24/12/1879	1/7/1881	2/1/1897 (Hon.)	—	Retired 28/5/02.
Barrett, Harry P.	11/2/1880	—	—	—	To Argyll & Sutherland H., 1885.
Moulton					Left by 1886.
Vaughan-Lee, Arthur V. H.	—	17/8/1881	—	—	Resigned 3/5/1885.
Meade-King, Wm. Oliver	—	8/2/1882	—	—	
E.					
Chandler, Leonard Geo. T.	—	29/3/1882	—	—	Somerset L.I., 1885.
Fyffe, Bertram Oliphant	—	8/7/1882	—	—	To Gloster Regt., 1884.
Lumley, Richard F. Lyulph	—	31/1/1883	—	—	Resigned, 14/3/1885.
Swayne, Edward Hopton	—	7/3/1883	—	—	To Somerset L.I., 1885.
Jeffcock, Jas. Wm. Gully	—	2/5/1883	—	—	To 10th Hussars, 1884.
Marriott-Dodington, Roger	—	14/6/1884	—	—	Resigned 22/12/1888. From N.S.Y. Colonel, W. Som. Yeoo., 8/11/1811. Died 22/12/1925.
Patton-Bethune, Douglas	—	16/8/1884	—	—	To Rifle Brigade, 1887.
E. B.					
McLean, John Alex.	—	7/2/1885	—	—	To 5th Lancers, 8/6/1889.
Peck, Eustace Marriot	—	25/4/1885	—	—	To R. Irish Rifles.
Whatman, Amherst Blunt	—	6/6/1885	—	—	To Somerset L.I., 4/5/1887.
Millais, John Guille	—	20/6/1885	—	—	To Seaforth's, 14/5/1887.
Walsh, Aubrey E. Bethune	—	7/11/1885	—	—	Left 1889.
Manley, Robert Geo. L.	—	16/1/1886	—	—	I. of M., 1/1/1890. Retired 1894.
(H.)					
♦Talbot, Edward R. J....	—	6/3/1886	29/8/1891	23/11/1901	(Seconded for service, South Africa, 11/7/1900.) Died 1910.
Matheson, Robert Farquhar	—	13/3/1886	—	—	Left by 1889.
Lethbridge, Hugh F. H.	—	4/12/1886	—	—	Resigned 3/1/1891.

Carew, Coventry Geo. W.	28/5/1887	—	—	—	Resigned 9/3/1889. Left by 1890.
Hill, Eustace Tickell ...	27/6/1887	—	—	—	Resigned 5/4/1888.
King, Marwood E. R. ...	30/7/1887	—	—	—	Resigned 9/3/1889.
Portman, Cecil Berkeley	5/4/1888	27/6/1891	—	—	Resigned 7/5/1890.
Lethbridge, Thomas B. V.	28/7/1888	6/7/1898	—	—	Resigned 20/5/1891.
Spurway, Bryan P. ...	2/2/1889	10/8/1889	—	—	To Somerset L.I., 12/10/1892.
Prowse, Charles Bertie	13/4/1889	2/11/1889	—	—	Resigned 14/4/1894.
Warren, George Bodley	13/4/1889	2/11/1889	—	—	To Worcs. Regt., 10/10/1891.
Kennedy, Francis M. E.	8/6/1889	25/1/1890	—	—	Resigned 9/6/1894.
Torriano, Charles F. A.	23/11/1889	25/10/1890	—	—	From R. Engineers. Left 1893.
Aldridge, John W. ...	1/2/1890	20/12/1890	—	—	Resigned 17/2/1894.
Lance, Ed. Fitzharding...	19/2/1890	11/2/1891	—	—	Resigned 2/7/1891.
Portman, Montague B.	29/3/1890	—	—	—	From Lieut., 3rd Bn. Wilts.
Wood, M. ...	—	25/6/1890	—	—	Regt. Resigned 4/10/1890.
Chichester, Cyril Earnest	7/1/1891	26/9/1891	—	—	To Somerset L.I., 10/1/1894.
Bridges, Thomas McGhie	7/2/1891	4/11/1891	—	—	To L.N. Lincs, 2/9/1893.
Farquharson, Alfred G.	14/2/1891	15/8/1891	—	—	Resigned 12/6/1893.
Bradley, Herbert F. ...	13/5/1891	—	—	—	Resigned 11/5/1892.
Parsons, Duric ...	19/6/1891	—	—	—	To Northampton Regt.,
Langton, Hon. Chandos	28/11/1891	5/8/1893	—	—	23/12/1893.
Gore ...	—	—	—	—	To 1st Drag. Gds., 16/9/1896.
Upperton, Clement B.	28/11/1891	8/4/1893	4/2/1899	—	I. of M., 12/6/1895. Resigned
(H.)	—	—	—	—	27/4/1901.
Colley, John Darley ...	19/4/1892	7/10/1893	—	—	Resigned 3/5/1899.
*Tudway, Clement P. (H.)	—	—	11/5/1892	1908 (Hon.)	I. of M., 1894. From 4th
Langton, Alg. W. S., Lord	11/6/1892	10/2/1894	18/5/1903	22/8/1908	Battalion.
(afterwards Earl Temple)	—	—	rejoined	(Hon.)	To Colds. Gds., 1901. A.D.C.
(H.)	—	—	—	—	to C.-in-C. in Cyprus,
Courtenay, Hon. Charles P.	—	—	22/2/1893	22/8/1908	16/3/1899. Resigned
(Earl Devon, 1904)	—	—	—	(Hon.)	23/8/1908.
Kenrick, Charles J. M. ...	16/5/1893	10/2/1894	—	—	From 4th Battalion. Resigned
Patton, Bethune M. ...	20/1/1894	5/9/1894	—	—	23/8/1908. Died 1927.
Maud, Charles C. ...	30/1/1894	5/9/1894	—	—	Resigned 30/5/1896.
✓ Kerr, William J. W. (H.)	10/2/1894	5/9/1894	19/6/1901	1908 (Hon.)	Resigned 9/2/1898.
Walrond, John N. H. ...	11/2/1894	22/7/1896	—	—	To Somerset L.I., 6/6/1896.
					Killed in action, 1914.
					I. of M., 11/5/1900. Resigned
					2/8/1908.
					Resigned 30/5/1896.

* Joined Special Reserve 1908.

OFFICERS OF THE 1ST SOMERSET REGIMENT OF MILITIA—Continued.

2/Lieut.	Lieutenant.	Captain.	Major.	Lieut.-Col.	Remarks.
—	—	11/6/1894	1908 (Hon.)	—	From 4th Battalion. Seconded for service, South Africa, 7/3/1900.
27/3/1894	22/7/1896	—	—	—	To Somerset L.I., 12/9/1896. Killed 1902.
5/6/1894	—	—	—	—	To Devon Regt., 9/12/1896.
26/9/1894	—	—	—	—	To R.W.F., 4/1/1899.
4/11/1896	9/11/1898	—	—	—	To Q.O. Cam. Hdrs., 26/7/1899.
1/6/1897	4/3/1899	—	—	—	To Somerset L.I., 20/5/1899.
15/9/1897	4/3/1899	—	—	—	To 1st R. Dragoons, 21/2/1900.
16/11/1898	—	—	—	—	To Welsh Regt., 18/4/1900.
22/3/1899	—	—	—	—	To D. of E. Wilts., 18/4/1900.
5/4/1899	—	—	—	—	Seconded for service, South Africa, 7/3/1900.
—	—	—	3/5/1899 23/8/1908	—	From 4th Battalion.
30/5/1899	10/5/1900	—	—	—	To Somerset L.I., 5/1/1901.
4/7/1899	10/5/1900	—	—	—	To Somerset L.I., 5/1/1901.
14/7/1899	10/5/1900	—	—	—	To K.R.R.C., 16/2/1901.
8/11/1899	18/8/1900	—	—	—	Seconded to Line Battalion, South Africa, 14/3/1900.
4/4/1900	18/8/1900	—	—	—	To Somerset L.I., 23/4/1902.
5/4/1900	16/2/1901	—	—	—	Emigrated to New Zealand.
3/5/1900	16/2/1901	—	—	—	Died 1903.
14/8/1900	12/4/1902	—	—	—	To Devon Regt., 26/7/1903.
21/1/1901	12/4/1902	—	—	—	Resigned 22/5/1901.
21/1/1901	—	—	—	—	To 14th Hussars, 11/2/1903.
27/3/1901 (Superny.)	—	—	—	—	To Y.L.I., 19/9/1903.
12/6/1901	—	—	—	—	Resigned 28/1/1905.
12/6/1901	—	—	—	—	Emigrated (Canada).
13/6/1901	—	—	—	—	To 6th Drag. Gds., 4/7/1903.
3/8/1901	—	—	—	—	To W. Africa F.F. with rank of Lieut.
3/8/1901	—	—	—	—	To R. Fusiliers, 27/1/1904.
5/5/1902	—	—	—	—	

*Owen-Swaffield, Sidney E. O.

Miers, Ronald H. M. C.

Cleland, F. C. Henderson

Vaughan, Edward J. F.

Norman, Compton C. ...

Heathcote, John R. C. ...

Worrall, Ernest W. ...

Cooper, Arthur Hamilton

Hartwell, Barry...

King, Edwd. J. FitzGerald

*Marshall-West, J. W. H.

Stone, Norman H. ...

Walsh, Theobald Alfred

Richardson, Francis

Joseph

Reid, James Cunningham

C.

Campbell, Neil A. H. ...

Winter, Charles E. ...

Rogers, George ...

Jervis-Smith, Fred H. ...

Cartwright, John R. ...

Eyre, L. F. Maunsell ...

Woodhouse, James D.

Forbes

Wyley, Francis John ...

Chisholm-Batten, James

U.

*Sterry, Francis M. ...

Compton, Percival H. ...

Luckhardt, Arthur H. P.

Meade, Harry E. ...

*Jerrard, Augustus G. A.	—	—	28/11/1903	28/1/1911	28/1/1917	Captain, retired, 4th Drag. Gds.
Stone, Burnett Sidney	16/5/1904	—	—	—	—	To N. Stafford Regt.,
Badham, Basil H.	16/4/1904	—	—	—	—	23/5/1906.
Worrall, Frank C.	16/4/1904	—	—	—	—	Resigned 5/5/1906.
Neave, C. A.	—	—	23/4/1904	—	—	Resigned 24/2/1906.
Burton-Bennett, John A.	25/4/1904	—	—	—	—	Colonial Office.
Dickenson, George B.	18/2/1905	—	—	—	—	To Indian Army, 29/11/1905.
*Gretton, R. H...	19/6/1905	—	—	—	—	Resigned 17/2/1908.
*Llewellyn, A.	—	—	—	—	—	From 4th Battalion.
*Mordaunt, J. F. C.	—	—	—	—	1911	From 4th Battalion.
*Dale-Glossop, H. W. (H.)	—	—	4/10/1905	2/8/1905	—	From 4th Battalion.
*Hussey, H. (H.)	23/12/1905	—	11/11/1905	—	—	From 4th Battalion.
*Broderip, John Y. M.	19/3/1906	—	—	—	—	From 4th Battalion.
(H.)	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Hume, E. K. (H.)	—	28/4/1906	—	—	—	From 4th Battalion.
*Thompson, G. W.	—	30/6/1906	—	—	—	From 4th Battalion.
*Bisdee, Thomas E.	18/11/1906	—	—	—	—	—
*Southey, J. A.	1/3/1907	—	—	—	—	From 4th Battalion.
*Payne, R. B. F. S.	1/5/1907	—	—	—	—	From 4th Battalion.
*Daubeney, Charles W.	—	—	20/5/1907	—	—	From 4th Battalion.
*Gallagher, H. W.	1/6/1907	—	—	—	—	From 4th Battalion.
*Allfrey, Claude S.	3/6/1907	—	—	—	—	From 4th Battalion.
*Boldero, A. G. (H.) (S.)	—	—	1/9/1907	—	—	From 4th Battalion. Died
						1929.
*Smith, Alfonso Francis	10/7/1908	—	—	—	—	—
*Llewellyn, William Wynn	—	22/7/1908	—	—	—	(Late Somerset L.I.)

* Joined Special Reserve 1908.

OFFICERS OF THE 1ST SOMERSET REGIMENT OF MILITIA.—*Continued.**Captain-Lieutenants.*

Folliar, John ...	...	...	...	1761
Corfield, William ...	...	...	...	Aug., 1767
Bastide, George ...	...	...	...	1779
Edgell, Chaffin ...	...	...	...	22/4/1789
Jesser, John ...	...	...	...	28/1/1793
Bayley, Zachary ...	...	...	...	29/5/1794
Graves, Robert ...	...	...	...	15/2/1799

The Captain-Lieutenant commanded the Colonel's Company.

	<i>Surgeon's Mates or Assistant Surgeons.</i>	<i>Surgeons.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
Bryant, Robert ...	...	1762	—
Manley, James ...	...	26/3/1778	—
Dyer, William ...	1/5/1778	—	—
McDonogh, Eugene ...	—	1779	—
Cridland, Henry ...	1779	—	—
Coghland, James ...	—	1782	—
Cloney, Patrick ...	—	23/1/1793	Resigned 1794.
Spencer, —... ...	21/2/1793	—	—
Williams, David ...	—	15/5/1794	—
Snowden, George ...	29/5/1794	22/4/1795	Resigned 18/3/1796.
Thompson, W. M. ...	22/4/1795	—	Resigned 1795.
Bridge, Samuel ...	—	20/3/1796	—
Sanderson, George ...	—	29/4/1798	—
Tucker, John ...	—	25/3/1799	—
Ridd, John ...	25/4/1799	—	Promoted in Pembroke Mil., 2/5/1808.
Hugo, Charles ...	24/8/1803	25/12/1817	Resigned 24/9/1809 and rejoined 2/12/1809.
Meallin, William ...	18/5/1808	—	Suspended Feb. 1810.
Lawrence, Robert ...	14/2/1810	—	Resigned 9/10/1811.
Powell, William H. ...	29/1/1812	—	—
White, Samuel ...	24/6/1825	—	—
Bowdage, Emanuel ...	21/6/1854	—	Resigned.
Colston, Charles Kelway ...	28/6/1854	—	To E. India Co.'s Service.
Foy, Henry Gully ...	4/12/1856	23/2/1860	Resigned 4/7/1873.
Liddon, William ...	15/3/1860	16/7/1873	Resigned 24/7/1875.
Dene, Wavill Arundel ...	18/7/1873	7/8/1875	—

Adjutants.

Slocombe, John (Lieut.) ...	...	1759	Captain 1760. Died 1760.
Corfield, William (Ensign) ...	...	10/5/1760	Lieut., 33rd Regt., 1/9/1756.
Bastide, George (Lieut.) ...	...	1779	Captain 1781. Died 1781.
Graves, Robert (Lieut.) ...	...	1/5/1793	Brevet Captain 1794. Resigned 28/7/1811.
Ashurst, Nathan (Ensign) ...	...	22/6/1798	2nd Adjutant, from Serjt.-Major.
Lovekin, Samuel (Ensign) ...	...	18/1/1805	2nd Adjutant. Resigned 25/3/1806.
Tench, Humphrey (Capt.) ...	...	29/7/1811	From 67th Regiment.
Chorley, W. H. (Lieut.) ...	...	1815	Lieut. 22/5/1813.

OFFICERS OF THE 1ST SOMERSET REGIMENT OF MILITIA—*Continued.*

Heley, John (Capt.)	...	...	1829	Captain 2/9/1809.
Cook (afterwards Altham), William	21/2/1846			From Half Pay, unattached. Retired
Surtees (Capt.)				1/10/1868.
Adair, Henry Atkinson (Capt.)	...	25/9/1868		Late Captain, 52nd Foot.
Walsh, Henry Alfred (Major)	...	1/11/1885		From 1st Battalion. Bt. Major, Somerset
				L.I.
Connellan, C. L. (Capt.)	...	1/1/1891		Captain, E. Kent Regt.
Fox, Arthur Barton (Capt.)	...	1/2/1896		Captain, Somerset L.I.
Swayne, E. H. (Major)	...	30/6/1901		Bt. Major, Somerset L.I. After Lieut.-Col.,
				1st Battalion.
Thicknesse, J. A. (Capt.)	...	9/5/1904		Captain, Somerset L.I., 8/7/1901. Killed in
				France, 1/7/16.

Quartermasters.

Corfield, William (Capt.)	...	26/3/1778	—
Edgell, Chaffin (Lieut.)	...	1779	—
Sandford, Joseph (Lieut.)	...	28/1/1793	Resigned 26/4/1793.
Davis, Richard (Lieut.)	...	27/4/1793	Resigned 3/7/1795.
Bayley, Zach. (Capt. 1800)	...	18/7/1795	—
Donald, James (Lieut.)	...	1800	—
Bernel, George (Ensign)	...	23/7/1803	Resigned 14/2/1808.
Barnard, W. C. (Ensign)	...	20/2/1808	—
Chorley, John (Lieut.)	...	1810	—
Villiers, W. G. (Lieut.)	...	1854-5	—
Winsloe, Richard (Lieut.)	...	15/7/1855	Resigned 1865.
Perry, James (Lieut.)	...	16/2/1865	Resigned 29/3/1873 with hon. rank of Captain
Taylor, John (Lieut.)	...	1/4/1877	Retired 20/5/1882.
Matheson, Robert (Lieut.)	...	—/5/1882	Quartermaster, 2nd Battalion, 1875.
Lee, Edward George (Lieut.)	...	7/2/1883	Hon. Captain 1893.
Leyster, Charles J. (Lieut.)	...	24/10/1894	Hon. Captain, 1904.



Shako Plate, 1861—1880.



Officer's Shako Plate, 1870.



Coatee Button, 1853.
2nd Somerset.



Officer's Cross-belt Plate
Circa 1820-37.

NOTES ON UNIFORM

NOTES ON UNIFORM

The first complete regiment of Somerset Militia of which we have details was that raised in the year 1559 (see text).

Most of the infantry at this time wore cassocks and red caps, the usual colour for the cassock being blue.

In the S.P. Dom. Eliz. V, cxciv, p. 53, it is stated that each Somerset Justice of the quorum was to provide two petronells on horseback, others not on the quorum to provide one petronell. These were to attend upon the Lord-Lieutenant clad in a cassock of one colour, at their master's charge. It appears that the cost of these cassocks was four shillings per man.

In 1581 the levies from Berkshire were ordered to be clad in some dark colour "and not of so light a colour as blue or red which heretofore have commonly been used."

During the Civil War, regiments on both sides seem to have worn all sorts of colours.

With the Restoration, red became the national colour for the Army. Facings seem to have largely been left to the individual choice of Commanding Officers. During the Monmouth Rebellion, the Somerset Militia wore red coats faced with yellow. Sir William Portman's Regiment was called the Yellow Regiment.

In 1759, when the Militia was reconstructed, a long red coat was worn which was hooked back in the skirt to show the waistcoat, the skirts being lined with the same colour as the facings. The hair was cued, and a three-cornered hat with a cockade was worn. Lord Poulett was Colonel of the Somerset Militia and also Lord-Lieutenant of Somerset, in 1758. Black was the colour of the Poulett livery, and it was also the colour of the field of their armorial shield. Black facings were worn by the Regiment, while Lord Poulett commanded, probably for the reasons given above.

The Inspection Report of 1778 mentions that the Regiment had black facings and silver lace. Lord Cork took command in 1784, and in the next training that took place, which was in 1787, he reverted to the old yellow facings, as shown by the following extract from the Letter Book of 1787 :—

REGULATIONS FOR THE DRESS AND APPOINTMENTS OF THE OFFICERS OF THE
SOMERSET REGIMENT OF MILITIA, 22ND OF MAY, 1787.

The Facings to be of a Lemon Colour edged with White Cloth.

The Lappel to be 3 inches wide, and on duty always buttoned.

The Cuff $3\frac{1}{2}$. The Collar not to button on the Lappels. The Epaulette to be edged with Yellow Cloth.

The Waistcoat and Breeches to be of White Cloth.

The Waistcoat without skirts. (Flaps to the Pockets and Three Buttons under each Flap). [*Words enclosed in brackets are ruled through.*]

The Hair to be clubbed with a Rosette, except the Officers of the Grenadiers and Light Infantry, who are to wear their Hair braded.

Boots with turnover tops. A Black leather stock with a turnover to be worn on all duties (and buff leather gloves), [*words in brackets added later*].

N.B. The Cloth Gaiters are dispensed with till the men receive theirs. The Buttons to be placed three together three times on the Lappels. Three Buttons on each cuff. The Regimental Buttons to be had at Firmans, Nr. Somerset House, Strand. The Swords at Callums, Charing Cross, and the Hats of Tully, North Parade, Bath.

Black Feather for the Battalion Officers.

Cross Belts to be worn whenever the Officers are sashed, 14th May, 1789. Field Officers in future to wear 2 Epaulets, 1792.

The Battalion Officers Hats to be laced and with 2 Tassels at the corners, the Grenadiers' to be plain with silver Button Loop, two Tassels and white Feather, the Officers' Regimental coats to come to the band of the knee."

Extract from General Order, August 22nd, 1793 :—

" All Ranks to wear black stocks.

" The Officers to wear black cloth Gaiters, uniform with those of the men, on all duties, except upon a March when they may be permitted to wear boots."

In September, cocked hats were substituted for the round hats hitherto worn by officers.

A blue undress coat with red collar and cuffs was introduced in 1794.

General Order, May 4th, 1796 :—

" His Majesty has thought fit to signify His Royal pleasure, that all Officers, without distinction, belonging to the Infantry, shall, in future, have the different articles of their Regimental dress here specified, made exactly according to the following directions. Viz., A Crimson and Gold cord round the hat, with crimson and gold Rosettes, or Tufts, brought to the edges of the brim. The Sword to have a brass Guard, pommel and shell, gilt with Gold, with the gripe or handle of Silver twisted wire, the blade to be straight, and made to cut and thrust, to be one inch at least broad at the shoulder and 32 inches in length. The sword knot to be crimson and gold in stripes, the Gorget to be gilt with gold, with King's cypher and crown over it, engraved in the middle, and to be worn with a ribband and tuft or rosette at each end of the colour of the facing of the Regimental Clothing respectively."

Horse Guards, January 28th, 1797.—Uniform hat approved for officers. Coloured feathers were introduced this year to distinguish companies.

General Order, September 14th, 1797 :—

" The Feathers to be worn in future in the Hats of the Battalion Officers and Men shall be red and white (the Red at the bottom), that to be worn by the Grenadier Officers and Men is to be plain white, and that for the Light Infantry, Green.

" When the Officers wear the Regimental Uniform looped close or buttoned all the way down to the waist, the Sashes are to be worn over the Coats."

" STRATFORD PLACE,
17th June, 1799.

" Dear Sir,

" As some Gentlemen are now coming into the Somerset Regiment, I think it is the best opportunity for making the alteration in the Uniform I should wish.

" I would have no lace, the lapelles to have 10 button holes by two's, the Epaulettes to be Gold, Mr. Cartwright, Grosvenor Street, has the pattern, one button on the Collar, the lapelles to hook or button quite to the bottom, Major Staple will carry down a coat with him. I have to request the Gentlemen will observe a strict Uniformity in the new clothing they shall make up.

" Yours etc.,

(Signed) " POULETT.

LT.-COL. SMITH,
1ST SOMERSET REGT.,
EXETER."

The following General Order regarding sashes was published August 12th, 1799 :—

" The C. in C. having observed that the Sergeants of some Regiments of Cavalry and Infantry have lately appeared in plain crimson sashes, H.R.H. is pleased to direct, that in future, the most scrupulous attention shall be paid to this part of the Sergeants' appointments, and that His Majesty's regulations relating thereto shall be strictly observed, viz., that the Sergeants' Sashes shall be made of Crimson Worsted intermixed with the colour of the facings of the Regiment and in these Regiments which have crimson or scarlet facings, white is to be intermixed with the crimson ground work instead of the colour of the facings of the Regiment."

October 7th, 1799.—" Officers' great coats to be plain blue with a small yellow button, and cut straight down. (R.O.)."

Horse Guards, General Order, February 24th, 1800 :—

" Hats to be abolished throughout the whole of the Infantry of the Army, and Caps to be worn instead, according to a sealed pattern in the officer of the Comptroller of Army Accounts.

" Colonels are permitted to engrave the numbers of their respective Regiments on each side of the Lion, or the lower part of the brass fronting, and those Regiments which are entitled to the distinction of a badge are permitted to wear such Badge in the centre of the Garter.

" The Grenadiers, who are permitted to wear these Caps occasionally when they do not use their proper Grenadier Caps, may, if the Colonel wishes, wear the Grenade in the same manner as the Regimental badge.

" The tufts for Grenadiers to be white and for Light Infantry dark green.

" All soldiers to wear the Regimental button in the centre of Cockade, except Grenadiers, who will wear the Grenade.

" Field and Staff Officers and also Officers of Battalion Companies are to continue to wear Hats as usual.

" Grenadier Officers are allowed to wear Hats when their men do not parade in dress caps.

" Officers of the Light Companies to wear caps similar to those ordered for the Light Infantry."

Regimental Order, July 15th, 1801 :—

" Rosettes are abolished, and a small bow to be worn the same length as Lord Hinton's."

Regimental Order, April, 1803 :—

" Officers on duty to wear Regimental Boots, also Sashes and Gorgets. "

The yellow facings were changed to black again about this time.

The following extract is from Buckmaster's " Old Regulation Book " (1805-1829), and describes the officer's coat. Unfortunately, the entry is not dated :—

FIRST SOMERSET MILITIA.

Scarlett lappelled Coat, Black Velvet lappells, cuffs and collar ends, 10 short holes in lappells by twos, 4 Breast Buttons in Cuffs and no holes. Pointed flap with 4 holes and coat buttons by twos, Soldier's back with two holes, white Cassimere turnbacks and Skirt linings, Ratinette body lining, a Breast button in Collar and lined with scarlet cloth.

(" Breast " buttons were small ones, " Coat " buttons large ones.)

Horse Guards, February 19th, 1810 :—

" His Majesty has been pleased to approve that the respective ranks of Officers shall be distinguished by the Epaulettes or Wings to be worn by each as hereafter specified.

" *Field Officers* to wear two Epaulettes. Those of a Colonel to have a crown and a star on the strap, a Lt. Col. a Crown and a Major a star. Captains of Flank Companies who have brevet rank of Field Officers are to wear wings in addition to their Epaulettes.

" The Epaulettes of the Grenadiers to have a Grenade on the strap, those of the Light Infantry a Bugle.

" *Company Officers*.—Captains and Subalterns to wear one Epaulette on the right shoulder except those belonging to the Flank Companys who will wear a wing on each shoulder with a Grenade or Bugle-horn according as they belong to the Grenadiers or Light Infantry.

" Epaulettes worn by Field Officers and Captains to be of bullion, those of the Subaltern Officers to be of Fringe.

" When the Epaulette is of Gold the device on the strap is to be white, when of silver, the device is to be yellow."

In 1811 the Grenadier and Light Infantry company officers were ordered to change the red cloth in their wings to black velvet. (R.O.)

Regimental Order, March 16th, 1812 :—

" The new Regulation Caps and jackets for the Officers are to be provided by March 31st and worn from the 1st day of April."

Regimental Order, April 2nd :—

“ The Caps and Jackets to be worn in the place of the hats and Coats will be according to Regulation.”

Regimental Order, April 3rd :—

“ Officers wearing Great Coats will conform exactly to the King’s Regulations. The men will be provided with Grey Pantaloon and half Gaiters in place of a second pair of breeches.

“ Officers will also be provided with Grey Pantaloon by September 25th from which time they will be worn in place of the blue ones.”

Garrison Order, February 7th, 1815 :—

“ His Majesty having directed a Uniform Great Coat to be worn by Regimental Officers, and which it is to be presumed is in the possession of every Officer, no others of any different colour or form can be used. The Regimental colour is Grey. All of a different colour will be instantly laid aside.”

In the Public Record Office is a book (W.O. 44/609) which gives details of Militia uniform. The book is undated, but appears to date prior to 1815. The following is the description given :—

1ST SOMERSET MILITIA, TAUNTON.

Staff Sergeants' Clothing.

Sergeants' Major. Coat Scarlet with Black Facing.

Drum Major. Coat White with Black Facing.

Silver Bias Lace and Fringe with Plated Buttons for both.

Sergeants' Clothing.

Coats Scarlet with Black facings, White Worsted Lace $\frac{3}{8}$ in. with Double Lace round the Collar of coat, Looping Square, 10 by twos.

Privates' Clothing.

Coats red with black facings, White Worsted Lace $\frac{3}{8}$ in. and black stripe, 4 threads outwards, Looping Square, 10 by twos, Double on the Collar.

Drum Clothing.

Coat white with Black facings, White Turnback and Linings, No Fringe Broad Lace. In over the seams of Coat Sleeves and body of coat to the hips. Darts and Pocket Frames, Narrow Lace, In for the Looping of Front Edge Turnbacks, Collar Single, Cuffs, Wings, Edge and Strips and Shoulder-strops and from the hips to the Bottom of Coat Flaps Looping Square, 10 By twos, Black Cloth under the Sentra Dimand in the Back, Single Lace on the Collar of Drums' Coats.

In 1830 the use of silver lace was restricted to the Militia and gold lace for the Regular Army. Gorgets abolished.

In 1834 a single-breasted blue frock-coat was introduced for officer's undress.

In 1836 regimental lace for rank and file was abolished and plain white lace substituted. Drummers retained their coloured lace.

In 1845 sergeants' sashes were ordered to be plain crimson.

In 1850 cross belts were abolished and plain shoulder belts took their place.

The Regulations of 1852 are taken from a pamphlet kindly lent me by Mrs. Torbock. It belonged to her father, the late Colonel H. C. Henley :—

REGULATION FOR THE DRESS OF OFFICERS OF THE 1ST SOMERSET REGIMENT OF MILITIA, APPROVED BY COLONEL VISCOUNT HINTON.

Militia Officers will appear at Levees and Drawing Rooms Regimentally Equipped and Clothed in full dress and in the Uniform of their respective Corps, upon all occasions when the Commanding Officer may deem it necessary, and when attending as Spectators, the Review or Inspection of Troops by the Commander in Chief or by a General Officer.

Full Dress.

The same as the existing pattern of the Army, silver lace being substituted for gold—with loose bullion epaulettes.

Undress Uniform.

Blue Frock, with rolling collar, without a slit or opening, a flat braid $\frac{1}{2}$ of an inch wide on the edges, and silk olivet buttons, also a scarlet waistcoat with beads edged with silver. Patterns of these may be seen at Messrs. Buckmaster & Co., 3, New Burlington Street, Regent Street, London, at Messrs. McCalland, King Street, Covent Garden, London, or at the Head Quarters of the Regiment.

Trowsers. Oxford Grey Mixture with a scarlet edging down the outward seam.

Cap. Blue Cloth with silver ambroidered Peak, and Chin Strap, band of Black Silk Oak Leaf Lace, with "1st Somerset" worked on the front in Silver. Pattern may be seen at Messrs. Buckmaster's or at Head Quarters.

Sash. Crimson Silk, as in the Line. For Light Infantry and Grenadiers with Cords and Tassels as in the Line. (Not to be worn by Paymaster, Quarter Masters and Surgeons.).

Sword. Infantry Regulation, Field Officers a Brass Scabbard, Adjutant a Steel one, other ranks, Black Leather.

Sword Knot. Black Leather.

Waist Belt. Black Patent Leather with Slings, Snake Hooks.

Field Officers with Staff Plate.

Stock. Black Silk.

Gloves. White Leather.

Boots. Ankle.

Spurs for Mounted Officers. Screw Steel with necks two inches long.

A scarlet Shell jacket for Mess, with silver beads, the same as the waistcoat, without the silver edging. Facings Black velvet.

Taunton,

November 1st, 1852.

In 1855 the double-breasted tunic came in. Brass buttons replaced the white metal buttons previously worn by the rank and file. Dark blue trousers with a red welt were worn.

In 1856 the drummer's coats were changed to red instead of being the colour of the regimental facings. Tunic single-breasted.

In 1858 the Grenadier and Light Companies were abolished.

In 1866 the drummer's regimental lace was abolished, and a universal pattern with small red crowns introduced.

In 1867 a blue patrol jacket took the place of the blue frock-coat for officers' undress uniform. The white tunics worn by the band changed to red.

In 1872 a regulation mess jacket was introduced. This had a rolled collar, black velvet roll and silver buttons.

In 1874 Glengarrie caps were introduced and a badge was worn consisting of the Duke of Monmouth's crest within a garter and motto "Defendemus."

In 1875 the Regiment became Light Infantry, and old photos show officers wearing a small silver bugle above the embroidered badge worn on the forage cap. A plain black cap was worn on fatigues, a sort of skull cap.

In 1881 all Militia badges and facings were abolished and the uniform for officers was like the line with the addition of an " M " on the shoulders.

In 1896 the blue patrol jacket was abolished, and steel scabbards substituted for the brass ones formerly worn by field officers. Mess dress altered, most of the gold lace disappearing.

In 1902 the tunic was altered and the sash worn around the waist.

In 1904 one company of the Regiment, " C " Company, was clothed in service dress, and the whole Battalion was so equipped the following year.

NOTES ON COLOURS

The use of flags or standards as rallying points in battle dates from the earliest times. The Dragon Standard of Wessex and the Raven Banner of the Danish invaders will be called to mind.

In mediæval times each lord or baron had his own standard or colour, which marked his position for his followers. These standards bore the heraldic devices of their owners.

Company Colours were first adopted by the Swiss, each company of Swiss infantry having its own Colour, which formed the personal banner of its commander. This practice was soon followed by other European nations.

When this system was adopted in England cannot be definitely stated, but it was in use before the formation of Cromwell's Model Army.

Infantry battalions of Cromwell's Army consisted of ten companies. The Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel, Major and seven Captains each had a company, and each company had its own Colour. The Colonel's Colour was quite plain; the Lieutenant-Colonel's and all the others had St. George's Cross in a canton next the spear-head. The Major's had a "Pile wavy," star, rondel or other device opposite the corner of the canton that was farthest from the spear-head. The first Captain's had two such devices, and so on. The groundwork of these Colours corresponded with the colour of the uniform worn by the regiment, if we take the case of the London Train Bands as representing the usual practice at this time. The London Train Bands were the Orange Regiment, Green Regiment, Blue Regiment, etc., and the colour of their flags was similar to their titles.

About 1680 an alteration in colours took place, and the groundwork generally corresponded to the colour of the regimental facings. This change was due to most regiments wearing red coats. The Colonel's colour still remained quite plain, but all the remainder bore the cross of St. George right over the Colours instead of in a canton. The Major's Colour was marked by a "pile wavy" next the spear-head; those of the Captains were distinguished by having the number of the Battalion Company in Roman numerals in the same place.

About 1690 the Colours carried by a battalion were reduced from ten to three—one for each of the two divisions of musketeers and one for the pikemen.

In the reign of Queen Anne these three Colours were finally reduced to two.

The Royal Warrant of July 1st, 1751, states that "the King's or first Colour of ev'ry Regiment is to be the great Union throughout."

"The second Colour, to be the colour of the Facings of the Regiment, with the Union in the upper canton. . . . In the centre of each Colour is to be painted or embroidered, in Gold Roman Characters, the Number of the Rank of the Regiment, within a Wreath of Roses and Thistles, on the same Stalk, except those Regiments which are allowed to wear any Royal Devices, or ancient Badges, on whose Colours the Rank of the Regiment is to be painted towards the upper corner."

When the Militia was reconstructed in 1759, a pair of Colours was issued to the 1st Somerset by the Board of Ordnance. These Colours comprised "One an Union, the other with the Lord Lieutenant's Arms." Earl Poulett was Colonel of the 1st Somerset Militia at this time, and also Lord-Lieutenant of the County of Somerset. Black was the colour of the Poulett livery, and it was also the colour of the field of their armorial shield. Doubtless this Regimental Colour had a black groundwork, as black facings were worn by the Regiment.

A new pair of Colours was issued in 1762, the Board of Ordnance providing the Union Colour and Earl Poulett the "Colonel" or Regimental Colour, for which he was allowed the Office price.

The Royal Warrant of December 19th, 1768, gives the following instructions for the Regimental Colour of regiments having black facings: "The second Colour of those which are faced with Black is to be St. George's Cross throughout; Union in the Upper Canton, the Three other Cantons Black."

A new pair of Colours was provided in 1767, and the Inspection Report of May 22nd, 1778, states that these Colours were then good and were received in October, 1767.

The return of the State of Arms and Accoutrements of the 1st Somerset, dated February 24th, 1770, mention a pair of Colours as unserviceable. These were probably the Colours of the 2nd Battalion, which was disbanded in 1763.

The next pair of Colours was issued in 1779. The Inspection Report of November 1st states that the Colours were good and received in 1779.

A new pair of Colours was provided in 1787, the old ones being deposited in Wells Cathedral (see text), where, unfortunately, no trace of them now exists.

An order of December 15th, 1800, directs that the Union and County Colours are to be sent to the Tower of London for alteration to the new pattern consequent on the approaching Union of Great Britain and Ireland.

An Ordnance Warrant dated March 13th, 1813, directs the issue of a new pair of Colours to the 1st Somerset. The last pair of Colours were presented on October 31st, 1854, by Lady Poulett on behalf of the Ladies of Somerset. These Colours were carried by the 1st Somerset Militia until 1881, by the 3rd Bn. Somerset Light Infantry (Militia) until 1908, and were deposited in St. Mary's Church, Taunton, in 1912.

Of the seven pairs of Colours carried by the 1st Somerset between 1759 and 1908, the set now in St. Mary's is believed to be the only one remaining.

It was apparently the custom for worn-out Colours to be returned to the Board of Ordnance when new ones were issued, unless the then Colonel expressed his wish to retain them, when he was allowed to do so. This may account for the failure to trace any of the other sets of Colours.

The last set of Colours provided for the 2nd Somerset are now in the County Museum.

Other sets were received by the 2nd Somerset in 1759, 1762 and 1809.

NOTES ON THE 2nd SOMERSET MILITIA

(4th BATTALION SOMERSET L.I.).

THE 2nd Battalion was completed for service in 1759, its establishment being the same as the 1st Battalion.

A Return exists for June 23rd, 1759, which gives the following list of officers. The first three Captains shown being the Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel and Major, who each had a Company.

Sir Chas. Kenneys Tynte, Bart.	...	...	Colonel and Captain.
Thos. Prowse	...	...	Lieutenant-Colonel and Captain.
Thos. Coward	...	...	Major and Captain.
Thos. Horner	...	...	Captain.
John Hugh Smyth	...	...	"
Henry Walters	...	...	"
Jas. Tooker	...	...	"
John Jeane	...	...	Lieutenant.
George Biss	...	...	"
George Cox	...	...	"
Ferdinando Hartgyl	...	...	"
Joseph Farrell	...	...	"
John Macie	...	...	"
John Adams (junr.)	...	...	"
James Muttlebury	...	...	Ensign.
John Gaisford	...	...	"
John Smith (if H.M. approves)	...	...	"
Samuel Baker	...	...	"
John Wood	...	...	"
James Lansdown (if H.M. approves)	...	...	"

One Ensign wanted to complete.

The Battalion was embodied on July 3rd, 1759, and on July 4th received orders to proceed to Bideford, to serve under the command of Major-General Durore.

No order or Letter Books for this embodiment exist. The embodiment ended on December 30th, 1762. The following extract is from the *Bath Chronicle* :—

" *Bath, December 30th, 1762.*—This being the day for disembodying the Somersetshire Militia, that part of it belonging to this (Bath Forum) Division, will be disembodied at Widcombe at twelve o'clock, when each man will receive fourteen days' extraordinary pay and his clothes.

"The Colonel has received a letter of thanks from the Secretary of War for their services."

A re-arrangement of the Somerset Militia took place in 1763, when the 2nd Battalion was disbanded.

With the outbreak of the French Revolutionary War of 1793 the existing Militia was embodied and the 2nd Battalion was again called into being.

No Order or Letter Books exist for the embodiments of 1793—1802 and 1802—1816.

Notices of the 2nd Battalion are found in the Order Books of the 1st Battalion, from which it is evident that both Battalions performed very similar duties and on several occasions were in the same brigade or garrison.

The *Taunton Courier* for July 1st, 1813, contains a note saying that the 2nd Somerset had embarked at Bristol for Dublin on June 28th.

In 1814 the Headquarters of the 2nd Battalion were fixed at Bath.

When the precedence of Militia regiments was decided in 1833, the regimental number became 47.

Leigh Camp became the training ground for both Battalions in 1873.

In 1876 the 2nd Somerset became Light Infantry, and in 1881 it became the 4th Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

The training ground of the 4th Battalion was changed to Bath in 1887.

With the outbreak of the Boer War the 4th Battalion was embodied on December 4th, 1889, and volunteered for foreign service. The Battalion, numbering 27 officers and 361 N.C.Os. and men, embarked for South Africa in March, 1900, and was employed on the lines of communication and block-house duties. Captains E. R. Talbot and S. Owen Swaffield served with the 4th Battalion.

The casualties—killed, died of disease, etc.,—were Lieutenant E. L. Reeves and 21 N.C.Os. and men.

The following were mentioned in dispatches :—Colonel W. Long ; Captains M. Foster, S. M. Woodhouse, S. Owen Swaffield, R. Manley ; Sergeant-Major Tobias ; Quartermaster-Sergeants. Kemp, Hacket and Stevens ; Sergeants Hillier and Hill.

Colonel Long received the C.M.G. ; Captain Foster the D.S.O. ; Lieutenant and Quartermaster H. Powis, the honorary rank of Captain ; Sergeant-Major Tobias, Quartermaster-Sergeant Kemp and Colour-Sergeant Bastable, the D.C.M.

The Battalion received the South African Medal (Queen's) with clasp "Cape Colony," and the King's Medal with clasps 1901—1902.

The Battalion was disembodied on May 14th, 1902. Some members of the 4th Battalion transferred to the Special Reserve Battalion in 1908 when the 4th Battalion was disbanded.

ADDENDA

1263—1345.

THE following extracts from the Patent Rolls give some idea of the demands for men made on the County for the period under review, during which there was trouble with the Barons, Welsh risings, and wars with Scotland and France.

March 20th, 1263.—Mandate to R. de Gorges, with the Sheriffs of Somerset and Dorset, "as they will preserve the King's estate and realm, to come with horses and arms and their whole posse to Oxford by Mid Lent at the latest, to give their counsel and aid, and the King will pay their expenses."

April 26th, 1296.—Mandate to the community of Somerset and Dorset to provide horsemen and footmen for the defence of their counties . . . and against the King's enemies of the realm and power of the King of France and this more especially during the King's unavoidable absence in Scotland.

Several notices appear to Sheriffs of Somerset, Dorset, etc., ordering ships and provisions to be prepared for the passage of the army to Gascony, and also for provisions to be sent to Carlisle in view of the King's coming to repress the Scottish rebellion and invasion.

August 30th, 1302.—Directions to the Sheriffs of Somerset and Dorset to punish the commonalities of Wareham . . . and Bridgwater for not keeping their promise of sending each a ship to aid in the Scotch war, whereby the expedition was retarded.

January 5th, 1307.—Mandate to Nicholas Fermband and Sheriff of Somerset to prohibit any provision, animals, money, armour, etc., being taken out of the said County except to Gascony.

September 1st, 1315.—Sir John de Clyvedon and Sir J. Dunmere were ordered to array the men of Somerset owing to the Scotch invasion.

February 7th, 1322.—Commission to John de Bello Campo of Somerset and . . . to raise all the horse and foot of Somerset and Dorset to go with them against the insurgents.

This was owing to friction between the King's party and the Barons led by Lancaster.

February 15th, 1322.—Commission to Ralph de Gorges and Sir J. de Clyvedon to raise 1,000 footmen from Somerset and Dorset for service against the Scots and rebels. In the following month this number was increased to 2,000 (Bath and Bristol being exempted). In May, Sir J. de Clyvedon and Sir J. de Erleye were ordered to raise armed footmen from Wells and Taunton (three each), and from every other town one each. Sir J. de Clyvedon was appointed the leader and was to undertake the arming and conducting of the force to Newcastle to serve the King for forty days at the expense of the townships.

October 31st, 1322.—Sir J. de Clyvedon ordered to array all men of Somerset between the ages of 16 and 60.

March 10th, 1333.—John de Bello Campo to levy 500 archers from Somerset, Dorset and Wilts, and to lead them to Newcastle for service against the Scots.

June 4th, 1324.—William de Faucomberge appointed to raise 200 bowmen from Somerset and lead them to Plummuth [*sic*] for service in Aquitaine.

August 1st, 1324.—Commission to Wm. de Weyland and Matthew Clyvedon to certify the number of horse and foot armed with steel armour, and residue of fencible foot, in view of the King gathering a great army against the Duchy of Aquitaine. In November similar orders were issued for service in Gascony. In December a levy of 20 men-at-arms, 300 archers and 200 foot was made from Somerset and Dorset. In the following year (December, 1325) an array of all the men of Somerset was ordered.

September 27th, 1326.—A levy for the defence of the realm, of 3,000 archers, hobelers and others from Somerset and Dorset, was ordered.

January 9th, 1345.—Thos. de Gourneye and Edmund de Clifton ordered to assess to arms all men holding a lay fee, from 100/- yearly upwards. In view of the threatened invasion by the French and Scots.

In 1347 long lists exist of pardons for past felonies, robberies, etc., granted for good service during the wars with France. Somerset names appear in these lists.

Somerset was also called upon to provide victuals, etc., for the expedition against the Welsh in February, 1316.

1662—1672.

EXTRACTS FROM STATE PAPERS DOMESTIC.

July 12th, 1662.—Two Companies of Militia Foot ordered to Taunton Castle, as general rising feared. (The Act of Uniformity was passed this year.)

February 6th, 1664.—Montacute. The Militia employed to disperse gatherings of the Separatists (Quakers).

June 27th and 30th, 1666.—Proclamation by the King to Lord-Lieutenants of Counties that the Militia may be in readiness if required. Sir J. Warre and others ordered to raise troops of horse in view of the likelihood of invasion by the French and Dutch.

March 29th, 1672.—The Lord-Lieutenants of Somerset, Devon, Cornwall and Dorset ordered to impress 200 men in the said counties for the garrison of Tangier. The number to be apportioned by agreement between their Lordships. The men to have liberty to return home after three years. To embark from Plymouth.

(Tangier was given to Charles II on his marriage to Catherine of Spain. The cost of the garrison proving so great it was evacuated and blown up in 1684.)

1685.

The Duke of Monmouth's force comprised :—

The Red Regiment	...	...	...	...	...	800 men.
The Blue Regiment	...	...	...	...	...	600 „
The Green Regiment	...	...	...	...	...	600 „
The Yellow Regiment	...	...	...	...	...	500 „
The White Regiment	...	...	...	...	...	400 „

The Independent Company from Lyme 80 men, a total of 2,980 men.

The Horse numbered 600 and was commanded by Lord Grey.

The Artillery consisted of four field pieces.

The Foot were commanded by Colonels Wade, Matthews, Holmes, Foulkes and Bassett.

Colonel Wade stated that the entire force never amounted to 4,000 men, and after deducting the horse sent to Minehead for cannon and the desertions which took place after arrival at Frome, the real numbers were :—Infantry, 2,600 ; Horse, 600.

The Royal Forces at Sedgemoor amounted to between 2,500 and 2,700 infantry and horse with 16 guns.

From the Phelips' Letters (published in "Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries," Vol. II, and the "Reports of the Historical MSS. Commissioners," Vol. IX) it would appear that the two Somerset Militia Regiments, commanded by Colonel Sir Ed. Phelips and Colonel Luttrell, went over to Monmouth practically *en masse*.

Colonel Stawel's Regiment was at Taunton, and on June 16th, when some of the fugitives from the Somerset Militia, who had met Monmouth's force between Axminster and Chard and had been routed, arrived in the town, panic set in and at midnight all the Militia marched out, leaving their ammunition behind. The officers gave orders for the men to muster at Bridgwater next day, but no muster took place.

1909—1919.

On the formation of the Special Reserve those officers and men of the Militia who accepted the new conditions of service were transferred to the Special Reserve.

Those who were unwilling to join the Special Reserve resigned their commissions, if officers ; and in the case of other ranks took a free discharge.

The annual twenty-seven days' training took place at the following places from 1909—1914 :—

1909, Willsworthy Dartmoor ; 1910, Bulford ; 1911, Tregantle ; 1912, Kingsdown, Bath, new Colours were presented ; 1913, Scraesdon ; 1914, Perham Down.

The Battalion was mobilized on August 8th, 1914, and proceeded to Bull Point and the surrounding forts at Plymouth. Total strength, all ranks, 907. Lieut.-Colonel A. Llewellyn was in command and Captain G. Fleming Adjutant.

The duty of the Battalion being to supply drafts, training was at once commenced and the first draft sent off on August 26th.

On November 28th, 1914, the Battalion was moved to Crownhill Hutments and all the various detachments called in, the Battalion being altogether for the first time since its arrival at Plymouth.

Lieut.-Colonel A. G. A. Jerrard assumed command of the Battalion on January 28th, 1917.

On November 17th, 1917, the Battalion moved to Ireland, being stationed first at Londonderry and in March following, proceeding to Holywood Barracks, near Belfast. The change of station being welcomed.

The 4th Reserve Battalion was disbanded in November, 1918, and the posting of its personnel to the 3rd Battalion brought the strength of the latter up to over two thousand.

The reports on the efficiency of the Battalion during the whole of the war were excellent and reflected great credit on all concerned.

The approximate totals of officers and men dispatched overseas were :—

Officers	...	...	...	...	...	...	700
Other Ranks	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,000

The Battalion was disembodied and absorbed by the 1st Battalion on September 27th, 1919.

Lieut.-Colonel Jerrard received the C.B.E. Captain H. French promoted Major. R.S.M. E. Gange, C.S.M. Davis and Colour-Sergeant Ferris, M.S.M.

COPY OF COMMISSION.

I, the Right Honourable Edward Berkeley Baron Portman Lord Lieutenant of and in the County of Somerset and of and in all Boroughs Liberties Places incorporated and privileged and other places whatsoever within the said County and the Limits and Precincts of the same.

TO HENRY CORNISH HENLEY GENTLEMAN.

By the Power and Authority

of my Commission from Her Majesty constituting me Her Lieutenant of and in the County aforesaid and of the several Acts of Parliament made and passed and now in force relating to the raising and training of the Militia within Great Britain for the defence of the same and of all and every other Power and Powers me hereunto enabling I the said Lord Lieutenant have appointed and do hereby appoint you the said Henry Cornish Henley to be an Ensign in the First Somerset Regiment of Militia (of which Regiment Vere Poulett commonly called Viscount Hinton is Colonel) and You the said Henry Cornish Henley are hereby required and authorised carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of an Ensign by training and disciplining the men armed and arrayed and to be armed and arrayed as the said Militia in and for the County aforesaid according to the rules orders and directions of the said several Acts of Parliament and of all the laws now in force relating to the training and raising of the Militia within Great Britain and by doing and performing all and whatsoever else is or shall be enjoined and required by any Law made or to be made respecting the said Militia. And I hereby command both the Inferior Officers and Private men of the same Regiment to obey you as an Ensign. And you are to

observe and follow such orders from time to time as you shall receive from your Colonel or other Officer having command over you in discharge of the trust hereby reposed in you.

Given under my hand and seal the fifth day of February in the
year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three.

(Signed) PORTMAN.

" WELLS, SOMERSET,
" February 15th, 1853."

SIR,

I beg to send you a Commission appointing you Ensign in the First Somerset Regiment of Militia.

The fees including the stamp, etc., amount to £2/12/6, which I will thank you to remit at your convenience.

I think it right to inform you that by the Act 42, Geo. III, Cap. 90, Dec. 13th, you are required within six months after your appointment to take, at the General Quarter Session of the Peace, the Oaths, and to make, repeat and subscribe the declaration specified in the said Act if you have not already taken and subscribed the same.

I remain, Sir,

Your obedient faithful Servant,

(Signed) EDWIN LOVELL,
Clerk of the General Meetings of Lieutenancy.

" H. C. HENLEY, Esq.,
LEIGH HOUSE,
CHARD."

